Earth First!

Beltane 1994 — **Vol. XIV, No. V**

May 1 — THE *RADICAL* ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL — $3.50

MT. GRAHAM DAY OF ACTION!

Those aliens may have to go unbaptized after all: the Mount Graham International Observatory struggle is looking up. On April 5, several thousand activists joined together in a successful "International Day of Action for Mount Graham" sponsored by the Student Environmental Action Coalition, Apache Survival Coalition, Native Forest Network, Earth First!, Arizona AIM, Greater Gila Biodiversity Project, Mount Graham Coalition, Environmental and Cultural Preservation, and Apaches for Cultural Preservation.

Protesters gathered in over 40 cities worldwide to show their opposition to the tragically flawed University of Arizona telescope project. Mount Graham is held sacred by the traditional San Carlos Apache, and is home to more than 18 endemic plants and animals, including the endangered Mount Graham red squirrel.

Italy's Arcetri Observatory, the Vatican, the US Forest disService, and the US Fish and Wildlife disService were targeted for their involvement in the project. The Vatican telescope is being built for the purpose of detecting alien life in the far cosmos. Or as Vatican Observatory director Father George Coyne describes, to "address the question of whether extraterrestrials might be brought into the fold and baptized." In the meantime, Apache claims to the religious significance of the 11,000-foot mountain are all but ignored.

SEAC activists James Jordan and Christine Graziano shut down Tucson's Research Corp.

Participants say the ultimate goal of the International Day of Action was to speed the death of the "Columbus" telescope, the third and most expensive project in a series of telescopes planned for the ecologically sensitive mountain. Columbus, already plagued by financial shortcomings, is riding even lower in the water after three universities in the last three months walked away from the project.

The hammers of protest have been pounding away at the U of A project since a 1988 Congressional rider exempted the telescope site from all environmental and cultural preservation laws. Now these blows are starting to show. Public pressure has already pushed 26 institutions into pulling their support from the project, including MIT., Harvard, the Smithsonian, and Michigan State University.

The newest addition to the list came on April 5, when over 1,000 activists converged on the University of Pittsburgh's Cathedral of Learning. They were opposing Pitt's speculative $15

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Prince William Sound Five Years After the Exxon Valdez

BY MICHAEL LEWIS

One fine Alaska spring morning in 1989, I woke up at 6 a.m. to hear the local radio announcer saying, "The Exxon Valdez is on the rocks at Bligh Reef and is leaking oil."

Besides the usual morning fog, I had trouble believing what I was hearing for two reasons: 1) Bligh Reef is a well-known and well-marked submerged reef far outside the designated tanker lanes and 2) just eight hours earlier I had been representing the Prince William Sound Conservation Alliance in a meeting with the Valdez City Council at which Ricki Ott had said, "It's not a matter of IF there will be a major oil spill in Prince William Sound, but WHEN."

WHEN came at 12:30 on the morning of March 24. As the world now knows, the Exxon Valdez spewed 11 million gallons of North Slope crude into the protected waters of Prince William Sound. As I arrived at the tanker that morning, oil was shooting six feet above the water line into the waters of the Sound, and by the time Alyeska clean-up crews finally dragged themselves out of Port Valdez a full 14 hours after Bligh Reef ripped the bottom out of the Exxon Valdez, the ship lay in a pool of oil two miles wide, six miles long and 24 inches deep.

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Violent Attack on Activists in British Columbia

The Forest Action Network (FAN) got its start last summer in Clayoquot Sound on Vancouver Island, British Columbia. A few of us wanted to do more than just sit on the road to protest the liquidation of old growth ecosystems. So we started practicing tree-climbing techniques and by the end of last year we had carried out three non-violent direct actions in Clayoquot Sound, shutting down road-building for a total of 25 days.

The group wanted to expand its actions outside of Clayoquot, so when we learned of road-building starting in S&M Creek, the last untouched watershed on Lilloet Lake, near Whistler, three hours north of Vancouver, we began to make connections with some of the Lil'Wat people. The Lil'Wats have never ceded or treatied this land and have never stopped fighting to protect it. We learned that not only was this area part of the extremely limited range of spotted owl habitat in Canada (perhaps as few as 50 pairs are left in the entire country), it was also sacred ground for the Lil'Wat people. Eleven Lil'Wats had been arrested in nearby Ure Creek in 1991 trying to stop road construction through tribal burial grounds. The area was being logged by forest giant International Forest Products (INTERFOR) who paid no heed to the Lil'Wats' concerns, desecrating burial grounds and blasting ancient petroglyphs, despite their designation as provincial heritage sites.

On March 28 we set up a blockade on the road leading into both the S&M Creek and Ure Creek watersheds, erecting an 18-metre tripod in the middle of the logging road. It was occupied by Shelagh Franklin, who hung on a platform suspended on a rope which was tied off to a steel gate 30 metres away. The gate was normally locked by INTERFOR, to keep the public out of the forest, but now with Shelagh's life hanging on the line, *we* were holding the gate closed and keeping INTERFOR out of the forest. Behind the tripod, strung between two trees, hung a 30-foot banner reading: "ROAD CLOSED DUE TO CORPORATE CRIMES."

There were lots of reasons we wanted to stop INTERFOR from moving into this beautiful and sacred old growth area. Just a week before we got to the area, INTERFOR had clearcut right through a supposedly protected, active spotted owl site nearby on Lizzie Creek. A "miscommunication" at the Ministry of Forest led them to grant a cutting permit for the area, despite the fact that they only have to look out for 12 active sites in the entire province. (All the others are in parks already.)

Additionally, FAN reconnaissance had documented a violation of the Federal Fisheries Act in the one cutblock INTERFOR had already logged in Ure Creek. They had cut right down to the stream edge in one place, entirely removing the riparian zone. Ure Creek is a class "A" salmon stream, and the salmon fishery, which has been greatly damaged by logging, is one of the most important means of sustenance for the Lil'Wat people.

Derek Wynaus' platform snagged after loggers cut the rope which held it.

The government has yet to acknowledge the unceded, traditional right of the Lil'Wat Nation to these lands and make reparations for the theft and destruction of their burial sites, lands, waters, food chain, etc. and immediately cease any further expropriation of Lil'Wat territory.

On the morning of the 28th, INTERFOR discovered our blockade and called in the police. The police asked us to take it down. We politely declined. The police told us they had a standing enforcement order for the road, dating back to the natives' blockade in 1991. We said we'd stay until our concerns were addressed. So the loggers decided it would be a nice day to start tearing apart and redecking a bridge about six kilometers from our blockade site, between us and the road out. Of course they denied the fact that they were counter-blockading us.

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EARTH FIRST!

NO COMPROMISE IN THE DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH!

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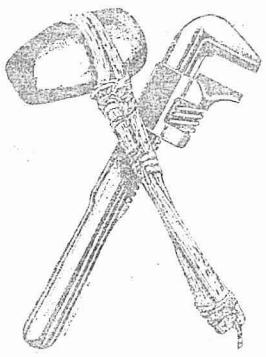


Industrial Collapse is Not Enough

I'm angry and impatient.

Some bonehead hunter shot a wolf in Maine and Wally wants to kill hundreds more in (his) Alaska. The FBI is holding my friends in jail. Activists have been beaten-up in BC. Politicians are up to their old tricks in DC. Forests and other critter's habitat is under attack from Maine to Moscow to Mt. Apo. The mainstreamers are compromising again. When will people learn?

When will activists and monkey-wrenchers be recognized for the modern day (s)heroes that they truly are. $42,000 in restitution for knocking down a few billboards. Give me (us) a break!!! What about restitution for the animals swimming in petroleum puke in Alaska? Felonies for protesting forest "practices" in Idaho. (Isn't it past time to stop practicing and do it right, or don't do it at all?) How about felonies for the fat cats sitting smugly behind their desks in corporate (government) offices.

More roads??? Oh please, that's just what we need (NOT).

More cattle grazing? I think we've had quite enough hamburgers, thank you very much.

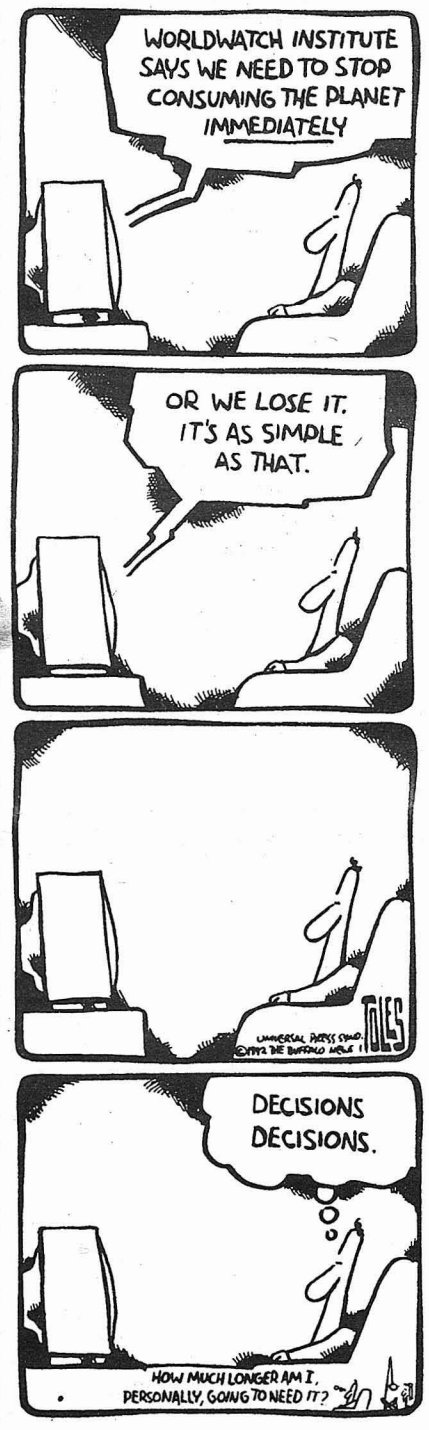
More irrigation projects? Why make the Earth (and us) pay for farmers in the *southwest* to grow cotton when we pay farmers in the *southeast* not to?

No more logging on public lands? How about no more logging. I think we've done quite enough already. How about wood recycling and wilderness reclamation? That will keep the loggers employed for quite a long time, if that's what they want. Personally, I think they need to get out more often and get away from the TV. There's a heck of a lot more to do in life than work to pay your damn car payments.

Genocide in the Sierra Madre, dioxin incinerators at Times Beach, boom boxes in the ocean, FBI bomb school, ozone depletion? This is madness!!

Option 9, PACFISH, GATT, what do these people think they are doing? They sure as hell aren't representing ME.

Oh yea!, we've got our little victories: the California Desert Protection Act passed, whoopee! The geothermal company quit trying to suck off Pele, yahoo! The University of Pittsburgh and Michigan State University pulled out of Mt. Graham, hooray! NREPA is actually being debated by them lame ducks in DC, hip, hip hooray! (It's about #*&%$^' time!)


WORLDWATCH INSTITUTE SAYS WE NEED TO STOP CONSUMING THE PLANET IMMEDIATELY
OR WE LOSE IT. IT'S AS SIMPLE AS THAT.
TOLES
DECISIONS DECISIONS.
HOW MUCH LONGER AM I, PERSONALLY, GOING TO NEED IT?

These aren't victories, these are crumbs left behind from the feast on the Earth. I think some folks are just trying to cover their white asses. These people don't give a damn about wilderness or sacred sites. If they did, they would realize that it's **all** sacred!

Did you ever think about why all the non-humans on the Earth run (fly, swim, hop, etc.) when they see us? That's because they know what we are capable of. Have you ever pondered upon the mountains of plastics and other toxic crap we have produced and have sitting around in barrels somewhere while we produce more and try to figure out how to dispose of what we've already got? It's high time we stop *producing* (in more ways than one) and start mining the landfills and *reusing*.

A good friend of mine wrote a song which goes something like, "The worst thing taken from us is the innocence of being able to look at a beautiful place without thinking about its demise." I find it hard to look at any place without thinking the same thing: We could *destroy life as we know it in our lifetime*. That *angers* me.

"Wearing buttons is not enough." Hell, industrial collapse and human extinction are not enough! I think we are all going to rot (and not compost) in a place that will make hell look a walk in the Redwoods.

And another thing, when will this movement support "their" paper? "The *Journal* looks great!" If we got a subscription for everytime we've heard this, we could afford that printer that we so desperately need to really make this paper look great. The set-up we have now causes us more grief than it's worth.

Now we understand that some people, like some of us, can't afford a subscription. Well, folks could help themselves (and us) to our dandy subscription sales commission. Or they could **send us some graphics!!!** (Back cover art especially.) Some nice folks helped out by lending us a light table and a drafting table. Heck, some people even give us stuff like computers, lawnmowers or DOLLAR$$. Use your imagination.

On a nicer note, Miss Demeanor got a vacation this issue. But worry not, those of you seeking advice for the ecologically confused, she'll be back next issue. And speaking of next issue, we don't have a "Blank Wall" lined up yet. The Blank Wall is the center section of the paper that is prepared by some able group on whatever issue they choose. It isn't edited by us and we can get you lots of copies, cheap.

So, if you are interested in any or all of the above, help us out! But more importantly, stop living the lie that we all live when we don't take responsibility for the mess we've ALL caused.

—Jim Flynn

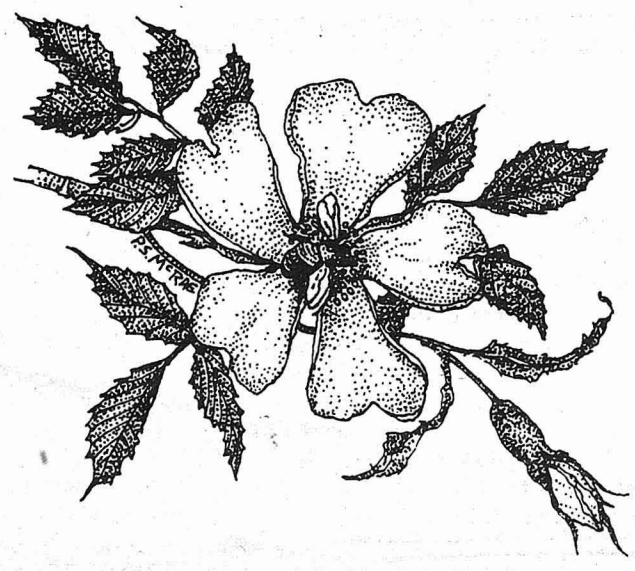
Beltane

by Peggy Sue McRae

Lazily unfurling in the warm caresses of a brazen morning sun, silken petals expand, releasing the piquant perfume of desire. The flower senses the humming vibration of the bee before he lightly touches down on her velvety fleash. Delicately he dances on tiny feet toward the heart of the blossom. Dusty bright yellow pollen clings to the hair on his legs as he submerges into the core of sticky sweetness—wings and petals shuddering.

Beltane is a celebration of erotic energy.

What consenting adults are willing to tolerate in each other is none of my business. Some 'deep' ecologists consider non-monogamy to be part of their dogma. Personally, I have always felt that non-monogamy is pretty shallow.



Dog Rose and Honey Bee

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Beltane
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Submissions are welcomed and should be typed or clearly printed. Send a SASE if you would like them returned. If you want confirmation of receipt of a submission, please request it. We encourage submissions on Macintosh disks or via EcoNet. Art or photographs (prints are best, negatives are good, slides are fair) are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. They will be returned if requested.

All submissions are edited for length and clarity. If an article is significantly edited, we will make a reasonable effort to contact the author prior to publication.

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SCHEDULE

Earth First! Journal is published 8 times a year on the solstices, equinoxes, and cross-quarter days: November 1, December 21 or 22 (Winter Solstice), February 2, March 20, 21 or 22 (Vernal Equinox), May 1, June 21 or 22 (Summer Solstice), August 1, and September 21 or 22 (Autumnal Equinox). One-year subscriptions in the US via third class mail are $25. Brown bag and First class delivery is $35. Outside the USA, surface delivery is $35. Airmail, corporate or law enforcement rate is $45.

Deadline for the next issue is:

June 1st

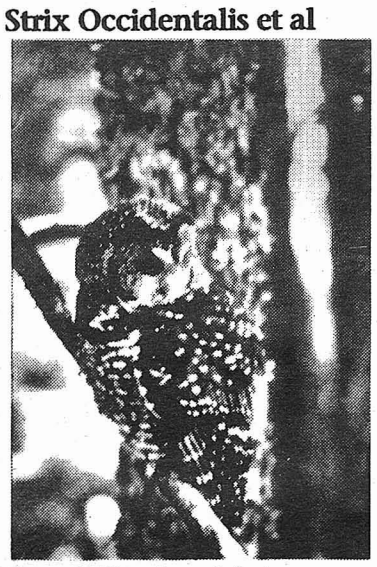
Clueless Bill's Extinction Plan

BY JUSTIN TIME

The Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Clinton Forest Plan (Option 9) is out and the news is not good for the life support system. How bad is it? Bottom line is that the plan calls for cutting the habitat of almost half of the surviving spotted owls based on the asinine premise that this is OK because we'll grow more old growth in the future!

The scientists who wrote the scientific report (FEMAT) and the seemingly unrelated political Option 9, studied over 1100 old growth-dependent species. This is way up from the 32 or so that were being studied as recently as two years ago. What they found was that viability (survival) of a species directly correlated to the size of habitat reserves. Imagine that!

Homo Effluvens v. Strix Occidentalis et al



Option 9 provides a widely distributed viability to a mere 300 of the studied species. Under Option 1, the study's most logging-restrictive alternative, about 650 species would have this viability. Only by stopping all logging on 11.5 million acres of owl forest on public lands and reserving another 1.5 million acres of State and private lands would we get a decent probability of survival of all 1100-plus species.

The plan calls for cutting a billion board feet per year (13,000 acres), over half of which will come from further clearcut logging of ancient forests.

In a nutshell, Option 9 sets up two categories for westside federal forests: 60 percent would go into "reserves," and 40 percent would become "matrix," or cutting zones. Both categories are comprised of 30 percent prime habitat (i.e. ancient forest) and 70 percent "other" (i.e. roads, clearcuts and plantations).

Another way of looking at it is that it amounts to trading off dubious protection of 60 percent of the remaining multi-canopy ancient forest (in the reserves) for clearcutting of the other 40 percent (in the matrix).

Therefore, the plan is predicated on the gamble that we can cut the old growth in the matrix over the next *ten to twenty years* because we are going to let the non-habitat in the reserves grow into old growth. The salient point is that the growing process will take *at least 150 years*. On its face, a seriously flawed gamble. And the reserves themselves are not inviolate, but subject to logging under the guise of "salvage, forest health, restoration and habitat enhancement."

Meanwhile, 46 percent of the owls will lose their homes and lives based on the criminally anthropocentric premise that the decline in owl numbers will stop short of the point of no return and recovery for the species will begin as the non-habitat areas of the reserves grow into old growth more than 15 decades from now. It's bad.

The Politics? As bad or worse

The plan's Record of Decision (ROD) was presented to Judge Dwyer on April 15. On April 20, the 11 plaintiffs (minus the Forest Conservation Council, who had the good sense to bail after the Deal of Shame) told the judge that they had no problem with him terminating the injunction. The surprised judge pointedly asked the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund (SCLDF) lawyers, "Does this mean you have no problem with a renewed timber sale program?" Their Reaganesque answer was not only did they not have a problem with it, but that it would "create a window of opportunity for new sales."

This clearly shows that the attorneys simply lied last fall when they browbeat the plaintiffs to give up the Deal of Shame sales with the argument that if they didn't, they would never be able to hang on to the injunction—a little self-fulfilling duplicity.

So this leaves us with at least two other rushed lawsuits in the making. These will soon be filed by a number of grassroots groups. However, it's entirely likely that SCLDF has poisoned the well and that Judge Dwyer will say in effect to the new plaintiffs, "Hey, you guys already had a lawsuit and an injunction and you gave it away. I have no further time to be jacked around while you play political games." And who could blame him?

The Real Action

If, miraculously, a new lawsuit brings on another injunction, then we can expect Big Timber Senator Mark O. Hatfield to try and pass (for the ninth time) a "sufficiency" rider banning judicial review and exempting Option 9, plus an assured additional billion or more board feet timber program, from current environmental laws. Senator Bob PACwood has already called on Clinton to ask Congress to pass sufficiency—admitting that the plan is illegal and, therefore, cannot be implemented as is. Even if Option 9 goes into effect without a Green challenge, the industry will still ask for a rider because Option 9 simply isn't voracious enough.

Just as architects of extinction Hatfield, PACwood, Clinton and all the rest of the Big Timber collaborators cannot see the connection between all natural ecosystems, they are clueless to the underlying consumption dysfunction and life support issues. No mention is made of curbing population, overconsumption and waste nor of alternative fiber sources in the plan. Life support doesn't even hit the radar screen. Continued logging is advocated in parts of Portland's watershed despite the potential need for a $200 million treatment plant that would otherwise be unnecessary. It would be cheaper to just give the greedy timber beasts the $200 million and forego the future operating costs.

On and on and on it goes. Over two billion board feet of raw logs were exported from the northwest last year. Add in chips, pulp, and 700 million board feet of public lands slabbed off old growth and the raw material equivalent of 10.2 billion board feet went out unprocessed last year alone! No mention in the plan. Ten times the volume of the proposed plan and it slipped by unnoticed!

Transition? Same as It Ever Was

Community Stability is the catch phrase behind Option 9's emphasis on timber production over habitat protection. Yet, just as the plan fails to protect species, it also comes up way short in helping ease the transition of federal timber-dependent communities.

The basic government "throw money at it" principle is at work here. Over $1.2 billion in transition funding is included in Option 9. That works out to about $24,000 per old growth industry worker ($120,000 per projected job lost under Option 9). But the money is not going to workers.

The Community Economic Revitalization Team (CERT) process has become another federal trough for a feeding frenzy of the rural oligarchy. Every sewer, industrial park and wetlands development scheme on the shelf has been pulled down and proposed for funding.

This Reaganesque trickle-down theory—the "if you build it, they will come" theory—states that workers benefit when these projects go forward. As, unless you have the infrastructure, you can't attract new business that will hire the displaced timber worker.

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Letters to the Editors . . .

Dear Longhairs, Hippies, and Riffraff,

About five weeks into my stay at the Latah County jail in Moscow, Idaho, I became so overwhelmed with mail I could no longer respond to all those good folks who wrote to me. Receiving mail was always the high point of days which were inevitably long and dull, and at times aggravating. I want to thank those who spent the time to send along a few words or pictures to help me pass the days. Now, with just a week to go, I see I won't ever catch up with the backlog, so I offer this thanks instead.

A number of people wrote of their hesitancy to bring up some topics: would I rather not hear about their last backcountry ski trip, their beer brewing success, elaborate details of a six course meal? One even suggested I print up "guidelines for writing prisoners."

I won't go that far but I will say that you can't go wrong, writing a prisoner, even if all you can come up with is a postcard and a single line to thank them for their work.

If you are writing a prisoner you don't know don't be afraid to give an account of some experience of yours in the wild. Tell them why you feel the way you do about the wild, share with them the story of your own decision to break the maddened frenzy of consumer culture and to side, instead, with the bears.

If you have met the prisoner at a rendezvous or campaign, remind him of those moments and something that struck you during that time. If the prisoner has taught you something or if her actions or her writing has affected you in some way, tell her so. And send along a stamp.

It can be bleak at times, jailed for the love of the wild and wild creatures. Words from outside to remind the prisoner that she or he is still in the thoughts of many go a long way toward keeping despair at bay, toward giving the prisoner the strength to stare down the days and retain a bit of sanity and joy.

—ERIK RYBERG

Dear Shit Paper for Brains,

Imagine this scenario. You: the committed, dedicated, nonviolent defender of Gaia, standing up for the forest, against the saws and snarling machines of eco-death. Him : Joe six-pack all American working stiff kinda guy, enraged at your suggestion to "Please leave, no cut today."

Earth Warrior, spokesperson for the trees, rooted in the forest duff firmly with the living sap for blood, YOU HAVE RIGHTEOUSNESS. The moment is yours! ...Until Joe six-er remarks, "You use forest products, you goddamn trust fund hippie! What makes you so moral? You use toilet paper, don't you? DON'T YOU?!!" The words cut cold and clean like blade into heartwood. You are reduced to a quivering mass of invertebrate bark dust. You cannot amass the necessary remaining moral fiber required to regain your ground. As a result, you eat 'dozer dust as another viable ecosystem goes down, replaced by a clover-shaped on-ramp.

Wake up! Wake up! There is another way! Listen to the words of the weary traveler. I have seen the solution.

In "third world" countries the bung-hole is cleansed with water. Implements are a rain barrel and a bowl to rinse, a hand to wipe. Crude but sanitary, especially since the hand is washed during and after. That's for peasants. The upper classes have a bidet: a "low bowl-shaped bathroom fixture, with running water, for bathing the crotch." Countless hectares of forest are spared.

Stateside I use a hose from the sink, temperature-controlled, and scoff at my friends who are still thinking that recycled TP is the answer. Remember, eco-defender, by supporting these products you are not entirely free of participation in the military-industrial-toilet-paper-earth-raper complex. The universe responds to a void by creating more. Eventually, one way or another, the planet is screaming silently while we are cleaning ourselves privately.

So instead of wilting to Joe six-pack and Mr. Charmin and the swath of death they represent, follow instead the verse of Peter Orlovski, who sings,

Keep it clean in between
when you're smiling in the green
Keep it clean in your smiling between!

—SLUGTHANG

Dear Shit for Brains,

I wish to respond to some of the internal chatter about Earth First!'s public image that's appeared in the *Journal* recently; most notably, Judi Bari's argument that Earth First! should publicly renounce monkeywrenching and Mike Roselle's concerns about what certain big names have been saying about us.

It's unfortunate that people like Paul Watson do not have a more accurate perception of Earth First! now. But Watson, especially, has achieved such resounding success in his actions; perhaps we could follow his example. He certainly pays attention to the media, but he doesn't seem to lose much sleep over what people say about him. His supporters do not support him because of what people say (enough to buy a submarine, no less!). They support him because the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society puts whale boats on the bottom. Let these blowhards blow each other, and let's get to work. Tell me, Mike, do I sense a little hurt at being out among people you were once in with? Well, you're not paying me for psychoanalysis; and I doubt I'd take the job anyway.

Most of what Judi Bari said is pretty sound. But I think we need a reality check here. Our friends in England may have successfully established Earth First! as the non-wrench-

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Ozark Summer 94!

BY MISSOURI TRANSITION ZONE/PINK PLANARIANS EF!

The Ozark mountains of southern Missouri and northern Arkansas are threatened by Forest Service mismanagement, development, all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), a fledgling "wi$e u$e movement" and lead mining (see last issue). To counter these threats and preserve the incredible biodiversity of the continent's oldest mountain range, we are calling for Ozark Summer '94! This campaign will start on June 1 and run until August 15 and will combine direct action with scientific research, education and community service in defense of the Ozarks.

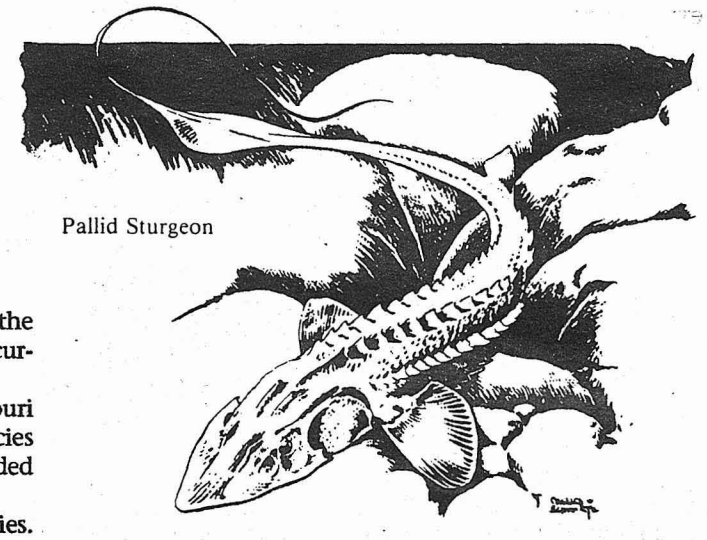
Grassroots activists had a recent victory when the Forest Service withdrew its outrageous (and illegal) plan to construct 308 miles of ATV trails in the Mark Twain National Forest. The proposal raised awareness of the ineptness of the Forest Circus and earned them more local opposition than the state has ever seen. Ozark Summer '94 plans to use the momentum from this victory to expose other uses and demand "ATV's No More" in our national forests. Our kickoff action will be June 4 at existing trails near Sutton Bluff, near Viburnum, MO, where a big trail riders' event is planned. [*ed. note—A few smaller trail riders are also expected to attend.*] Nonviolence training begins June 1 and a festival is planned at the action. Ozark trail maintenance is scheduled for June 6-9 and 13-16.

Ozark Summer '94! will have countless actions, including opposition to logging on public lands. Most of the wood, from rampant clearcuts in the area, becomes single-use pallets before ending up in a landfill. Despite the best efforts of the Freddies, the area's hardwood forests are on their way to recovery. Increased sightings of cougar and black bear have underscored the need for wildlife inventories. Scientific research will focus on species that can stop timber sales and other multiple abuses.

Additionally, the campaign will focus on water quality. Stream testing will compliment actions to oppose lead mining and its affect on aquifers. The expansion of the minerals industry into pristine area will be stopped.

Some of the other events of the summer include working with the Freddies on the Ozark Trail, presentations to children's camps, playground building and a bioregional gathering. Local residents have been responding very positively to the campaign. We've already received donations and loans, including the use of a house near the Black river for a base camp.

So, stop by on your way to or coming from the RRR. The Ozarks may be where the Forest Service is most vulnerable and your help can make it possible to shut 'em down. If you would like to participate and experience the wonders of the Ozark hardwood forests, numerous caves, gushing springs, limestone bluffs and unmatched floatable streams, write us and request a primer for your map to Ozark Summer'94! at POB 484, Columbia, MO 65201 or call (314) 449-3857.



Pallid Sturgeon

PINK PLANARIAN

STATE STATUS: Endangered
FEDERAL STATUS: Candidate for listing, but insufficient information is available
HABITAT AND RANGE: Found only in the Devil's Icebox at Rock Bridge Memorial State Park south of Columbia, MO, in the cave's main stream.

The planarian, which usually are observed as being 1 to 1.5 inches long and a quarter-inch wide, developed in isolation from other species. Like Darwin's Galapagos finches, they are only known to exist in one place, a few miles south of downtown Columbia.

Although population numbers appear to be down, it's not known whether that's a result of water degradation from nearby developments, natural fluctuations, predators or even faulty surveying. It is common for invertebrate species to have large population fluctuations, and it appears pink planarian populations are fluctuating downward.

Development in the neighboring areas could affect planarian numbers because the stream running though Devil's Icebox is replenished by surface water. Oil or gas from roads, pesticides or sewage from neighboring homes could affect pink planarian survival. Despite the uncertainties, it is important to limit changes to the flatworm's environment.

PALLID STURGEON

STATE STATUS: Endangered
FEDERAL STATUS: Endangered
HABITAT AND RANGE: The entire Missouri River and the lower Mississippi River, especially areas with strong currents and sand or gravel bottoms.

The pallid sturgeon, which once lived in the Missouri River near Boone County, evolved into a distinct species millions of years ago. This prehistoric fish was first recorded in 1905.

Pallid sturgeons have wide, flat heads and pale bodies. They have heavy, bony plates on their backs and no scales. Their mouths are under their heads, which helps them feed on insects and small fish found along river bottoms.

"We've lost miles and miles of big river habitat just because of how we've managed the river," says Dennis Figg, endangered species coordinator for the Department of Conservation. Channelization, dams and locks have destroyed pallid sturgeon habitat. "The pallid sturgeon also are threatened by water pollution, including sewage and petroleum runoff. The fish is demonstrating that we have water-quality issues that we have to deal with on a grand scale. Populations are now so low that they are interbreeding with other sturgeon species," he says.

Now being bred in captivity, the fish might be reintroduced to the river systems, however reintroduction won't be enough without addressing the problems that endangered the fish in the first place, according to Figg.

CHERRYSTONE SNAIL

STATE STATUS: Rare
FEDERAL STATUS: none
HABITAT AND RANGE: Cool moist areas, along streams; a few populations found in Appalachia, one population each in Wisconsin and Minnesota, and one in Missouri's Three Creeks State Conservation Area.

The cherrystone snail is a glacial relic, a tiny land snail that looks like the pit of a cherry. The snails have lived in central Missouri since the glaciers last visited, about 12,000 years ago.

Found along Turkey Creek in Three Creeks State Conservation Area, the snails primarily feed on algae and rotting vegetation. They live close to the soil, in the leaf litter of north-facing slopes, and on top of leaves after it rains.

The snail is threatened by urban development and timber cutting. Populations in Wisconsin were decimated by timber cutting and habitat loss.

"Test Burn" Turns Confrontational at Times Beach

BY DAVID ABBERTON

"It looks like a war zone out there," remarked an officer of the St. Louis County Police Tactical Squad as he escorted his prisoners to the booking counter at the county jail. Outrage and CD shenanigans prevailed on April 1 at Times Beach, Missouri, the proposed site of a dioxin incinerator. About 50 demonstrators showed up to face off with government-industry forces to demand a halt to the construction of the toxic waste burner.

The Times Beach Action Group (TBAG), a coalition of EF!ers, dioxin victims, and other outraged citizens conducted their own "test burn" in front of the offices of the EPA and Syntex Agribusiness, both partners in crime. As their "solution" to the dioxin contamination crisis in eastern Missouri, the EPA-approved incinerator will burn contaminated soil (burn the evidence) resulting in the dispersal of unknown amounts of dioxin and other toxins all over the area.

Though it doesn't take a weatherperson to know which way the wind blows, demonstrators in white chem-suits and protective masks lit smoke devices in the stacks of a mock incinerator. TBAG members were arrested for trespassing on federal (public) property as they breached a police barricade in an attempt to attach a banner reading "STOP EPA LIES! NO INCINERATOR" to a bridge over the Meramec River. One "really, civilly disobedient" protester, as referred to by the police, was wrestled to the ground by two officers. This led protesters to pelt cops with smoke bombs, shouting, "Arrest the EPA!" Microphones and camera lenses bobbed and darted through the smoke cloud as news reporters scurried for position.

Just when it seemed the authorities had effectively quelled the uprising by stuffing the lawbreakers into a squad car, the rebel forces' long-awaited air support droned onto the scene. An airplane towing the message, "NO DIOXIN INCINERATOR AT TIMES BEACH" began circling over the battlefield.

The incident resulted in three arrests: area residents Lydia Roberts, Steve Taylor, and myself were later released "pending application for warrants," according to police. (Donations for legal support will be greatly appreciated.)

In a Ramada Inn parking lot five miles away from the surrealistic conflagration, Syntex flak-runner Gary Pendergrass nervously chanted his hellish PR mantras for TV cameras. A full body shot would have no doubt revealed his pants down around his knees. "Truthfully..." he began his comments, and the rest we've all heard before about the reliability and safety of the incinerator project.

"Test burn" refers to the method of monitoring stack emissions which has already failed at the *Vertac* burner in Jacksonville, Arkansas. *Vertac* failed to meet EPA standards of destruction and removal of dioxin in their test burn and were ordered to shut down by a federal judge. However, that decision was nixed on appeal when the EPA (Every Polluter's Ally) weighed in on the side of chemical waste outlaws establishing their claim that a Superfund site cannot be sued until *after* it is completed and all the damage is done. With the judicial system cementing the government-industry alliance, in spite of democratic will and ecological sanity, the people have decided to take matters into their own callused hands like so many crates of tea, symbols of the arrogance of centralized government power thrown overboard in the dark of night.

TBAG is demanding:

1. No incinerator at Times Beach! The Missouri Department of Natural Resources must re-open the consent decree allowing real democratic participation;
2. Actual compensation for dioxin victims in Missouri and around the nation;
3. Uncovering the dioxin cover-ups including the falsification of toxicology research and reports by the US military and Monsanto;
4. A Congressional investigation into the EPA and its unethical relationship with the chemical waste industry; and
5. President Bill Clinton keep his promise to support a moratorium on the construction of hazardous waste incinerators.

To lend support, contact TBAG, 50 Clarkson Center, Suite 493, Chesterfield, MO 63017, phone (314) 349-5269.

SOCAL ROAD WARS CONTINUE

BY CRAIG BENEVILLE

Southern California's road wars continued on March 10 as Orange County Earth First!, in perhaps the first ever crane sit, stopped construction on the nefarious Foothill Tollroad.

Orange County's three tollroad projects, the Foothill, Eastern and San Joaquin Hills, are perhaps the greatest threat to southern California's coastal sage scrub ecosystem. Coastal Sage Scrub, home to the California gnatcatcher, cactus wren and over 100 other endangered species, is considered one of the most endangered ecosystems on the mainland US. No wonder coastal southern California is expected to become the epicenter of US extinctions in the coming decades.

The three tollroads will not relieve the gridlock traffic common to the area; numerous traffic engineers have stated as much. Why build them then? So that two developers, the Phillip-Morris owned Mission Viejo Company and the Irvine Company, will have the infrastructure in place to further develop their vast land holdings which the roads will traverse.

Inspired by a highly successful action a month earlier at the same site (see the Eostar edition of the Journal), OCEF! decided a day on the cranes was simply not enough. So we returned in early April, under cover of darkness and fog, this time with a platform and plenty of food and water.

The platform was rigged so that if the crane was lowered, the platform would tip with it, risking dumping the occupant. The support crew set up a base camp a quarter mile up the creekbed.

Unfortunate circumstance, though, doomed the crane sit. A combination of the location of the crane next to the under-construction bridge, the fifty foot height of the bridge, and the location of the platform on the crane allowed the boom of the crane to be lowered to the top of the bridge so that the platform was only half-tipped by the time it got there. And so, after roughly 30 hours, the crane sitter was neatly deposited into the arms of the cops. Any difference in those three

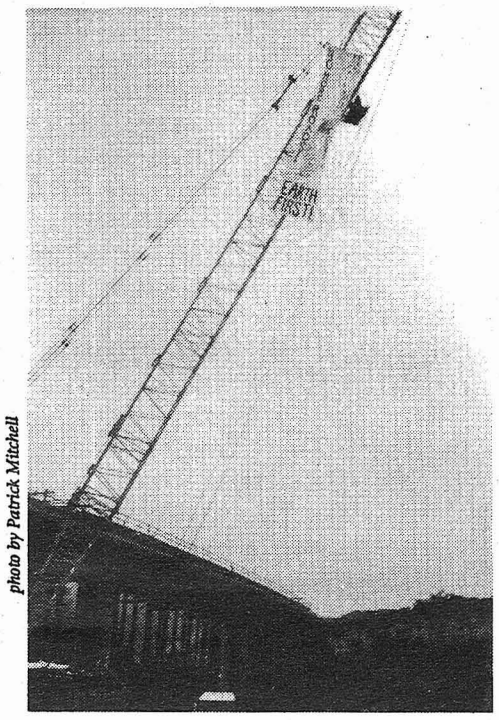


photo by Patrick Mitchell

variables would probably have allowed the crane sit to continue.

Before the sitter had even been arrested, one of the local developer-friendly judges had sent word to make sure he was not released (cite and release has been the norm in past actions) and set bail at ten thousand dollars. After 4 days in jail, he was finally released on his own recognizance.

The tide may finally be turning against the land-raping hooligans. The crane actions have proved to be a galvanizing force for Orange County Earth First!, with empowerment within the group steadily growing and public support for Earth First! and opposition to the roads at an all time high. The Transportation Corridor Agency, in charge of building the three roads, is now under investigation by the state Attorney General's office for fraud in connection with deliberate omissions of controversy in the bond prospectus for the San Joaquin Hills Tollroad. Due to activist outrage and pressure on Babbitt [See below], the Fish and Wildlife Service is reconsidering the negotiations now underway for a section 7 exemption from the Endangered Species Act for the Eastern Tollroad.

Continue this pressure; write Loren Hayes, USFWS, 2730 Loker Avenue west, Carlsbad, CA 92008. Tell him any exemption of the Eastern Tollroad would be contrary to the Scientific Review Panel guidelines set forth in the Natural Communities Conservation Planning process the Service is mandated to uphold, and therefore illegal. Send a copy to Babbitt and George Frampton, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, as well. Reach both at 18 and "C" Streets NW, Washington, DC 20240.

Reality Bursts Babbitt's NCCP Bubble

BY PATRICK MITCHELL

Southern California Earth First! activists recently glanced into the posh lifestyle enjoyed only by select developers, politicians and mainstream environmentalists. The scene was horrifying. Politicians including Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt, and head of California Resources Agency, Doug Wheeler were mixing it up with two-hundred of the region's academics, building industry executives and environmentalists. Lining the rear of the La Jolla Hyatt conference room was the nation's media. At a table near the front sat seven Earth First!ers. A dozen others demonstrated at the entrance of the hotel.

The luncheon was supposed to be a celebration of California's Natural Community Conservation Planning (NCCP) efforts in southern California—a habitat conservation plan that has the potential to destroy more than half of the remaining coastal sage scrub in southern California. But the activists, armed only with the truth, had other plans. They politely corrected the speakers when their words were less than correct and hissed when they were outright lies. Dominating the two question and answer periods, the activists drilled speakers with questions about illegal grading of alluvial sage scrub, mountain lion protection, Orange County's disastrous toll roads, the Endangered Species Act and something about the quantum physics of heavy machinery design and operation. Although they got no answers they did get results.

It has been said that the truth hurts. On this day a lot of people left feeling very sore. Not coincidentally, changes on some of the projects involved with NCCP have already come. Stay tuned because a habitat plan like NCCP is coming soon to an ecosystem near you.

SENATE APPROVES DESERT PROTECTION ACT

On April 13, 1994, eight years after it was originally introduced, the California Desert Protection Act was finally approved by the US Senate by an overwhelming vote of 69 to 29. This action virtually assures that the Act will become law this year, as the Clinton administration supports it and it is expected to pass the House easily.

The Act will enhance protection for nearly seven million acres of fragile desert lands in southern California, creating 74 new wilderness areas. Three million acres will be added to the National Park system by expanding Joshua Tree and Death Valley National Monuments and redesignating them as National Parks, and by creating the new 1.2 million-acre Mojave National Park. This is a major victory for wildlife and a defeat for the off-road vehicle, mining and hunting lobbies.

The Act unfortunately does not remove livestock from much of the land, but bars new grazing permits.

The legislation will now move to the House of Representatives for a vote, so please contact your representative and urge him or her to support HR 518, the House version of the Act. The number to call is (202) 224-3121.

DRUGS AND LOGGING IN THE SIERRA MADRE

Murder of community leaders is common in the Sierra Madre, where violence and destruction of indigenous forests benefits both logging companies and drug traffickers. Old growth forests are taken from the locals, clearcut and replanted with marijuana and opium.

Three or four people are being killed every week in the Baborigame area, mostly Tarahumara or Tepehuan people, for control of their land. Narco-traffickers are increasingly growing drug crops on land taken from the traditional subsistence farmers. Entire communities are threatened.

The last remaining old growth in the Sierra Madre Occidental of Chihuahua is also endangered by uncontrolled roadbuilding. This forest hosts a unique combination of tropical and temperate species, many of which are endangered such as the thick-billed parrot, jaguar, and over 400 species of plants used by the native people. Over 50,000 Tarahumara and Tepehuan cling to a traditional, subsistence lifestyle, despite centuries of exploitation. These cultures have retreated to the most rugged areas in the Sierra.

Illegal logging, corruption, and drug trafficking are tied to local political bosses, the caciques. Logging companies profit from favorable contracts and partnerships with caciques. New federal laws enable them to buy Indian land. Local communities are exploited and are helpless to renew contracts or stop logging.

Most of the land in the Sierra is part of a communal land system (ejidos) which was long ago corrupted by the caciques. Today, most ejidos are held in a system of debt peonage to powerful logging companies allied with the caciques.

Forest Guardians of Santa Fe, NM, is teaming up with Edwin Bustillos, a grassroots organizer in the Sierra, to assist Tarahumara and Tepehuan communities in regaining control of their lands. The Federal Attorney General, Teresa Jardi, is cooperating to restore justice to the Sierra, but support is needed from the Mexican and US governments.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED TODAY! Please write President Carlos Salinas de Gortari, Palacio Nacional, 06067 Mexico DF, MEXICO and call Jorge Montano, Mexican Ambassador (202) 728-1600.

•Insist on the arrest and conviction of all caciques and drug traffickers that have terrorized the region for the last ten years.

•Urge the Mexican government to support the work of Teresa Jardi and Edwin Bustillos to restore justice and find alternatives to logging in the sierra. A government that seeks free trade with the US must defend the basic rights of its people.

For more information contact Randall Gingrich, Forest Guardians, Sierra Madre Program Director, 1700 N. Wentworth Road, Tucson, AZ 85749; phone (602) 749-0587.

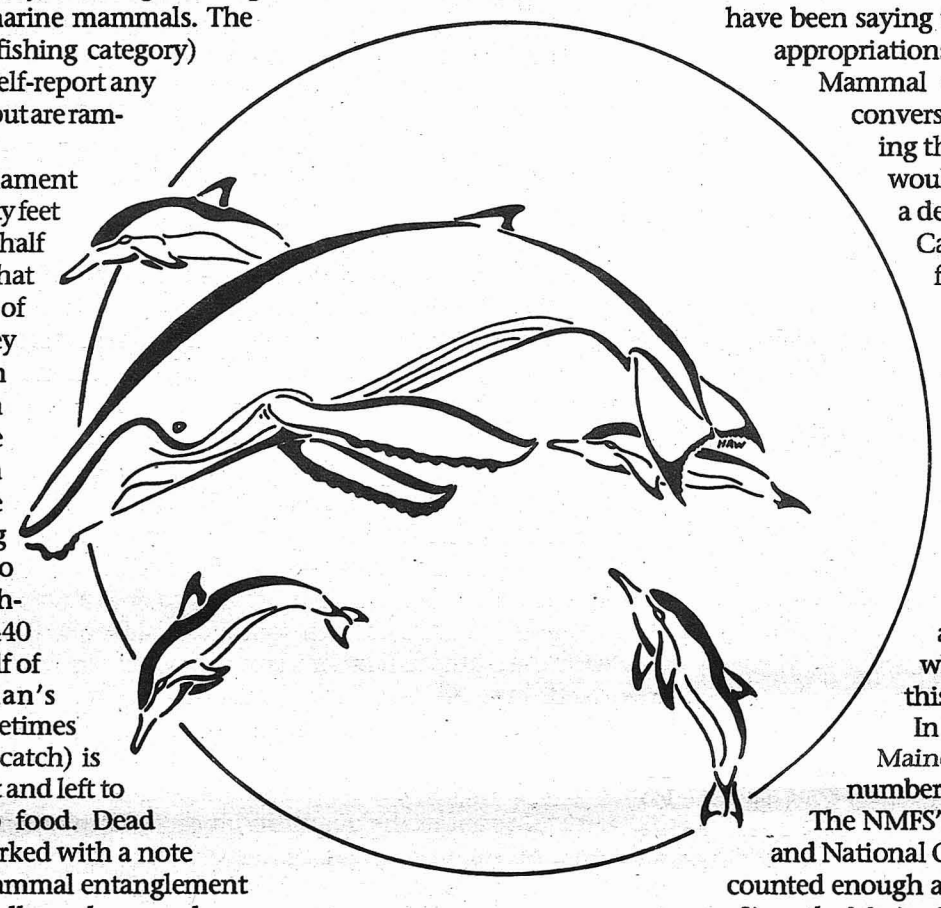
-FOREST GUARDIANS

Marine Mammal Protection Act Up for Reauthorization

BY BOB AND AMY LEVANGIE

The Maine Mammal Protection Act is up for reauthorization and the fishing industry is lobbying heavily. In 1988 the act was extended for five years and when the extension ran out last fall, it was shelved pending public and industry input for six more months. Although right, humpback and sperm whales are listed as endangered species, it seems the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has little interest in protecting them. As many as 100,000 marine mammals are killed annually in US waters. Most are caught in gillnets, some die tangled in lobster gear.

The National Marine Fisheries Service is federally funded with an annual budget of over two hundred million dollars.The NMFS doesn't have a program to enforce the fishery licensing rules regarding gillnet-entangled marine mammals. The category 1 (the gillnet fishing category) fishers are supposed to self-report any mammal "takes" (kills), but are rampantly underreporting.



Gillnets are monofilament (plastic) nets about twenty feet deep and are about one half mile long. Anything that gets tangled in this "web of death" is killed. After they are set, whatever is in them is retrieved when the fisherman can make it back, usually within one to three days. We're sure it's a slow, agonizing death. According to NMFS, in the summer fishing season there are 440 gillnet vessels in the Gulf of Maine. The fisherman's bycatch (which is sometimes more than their target catch) is simply cut out of the net and left to sink and become crab food. Dead whales float and are marked with a note in a plastic bottle by mammal entanglement organizations to eventually wash up on shore somewhere.

We asked the NMFS about a particular humpback that was trapped in a gill net off Big Green Island Penobscot Bay last summer. They didn't seem to know much about it and referred me to Allied Whale at the College of the Atlantic. The NMFS agent said he saw something about it in the local paper but he didn't seem very interested. It seems to them this is more of a nuisance than anything. We have given a video of the event to legislators and authorities with the message that this entanglement wasn't reported, recorded or investigated. We seem to have gotten some attention.

Two pieces of legislation will be coming up for vote in April. One is Senate bill S. 1636 (Kerry, Packwood and Stevens) and the other is House bill HR2760 (Studds). Both are designed to weaken the Marine Mammal Protection Act. The house bill would legalize the import of polar bear parts (from trophy hunters). S. 1636 requires "streamlin[ing] the procedure for authorizing the incidental taking of marine mammals in commercial fisheries consistent with the long-term objective of identifying and taking such steps [to] reduce mortality and serious injury incidental to commercial fishing operations to insignificant rates approaching zero." They have been saying this since 1972, but the streamline part is new. The proposed appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Interior and the Marine Mammal Commission for five years total $169,339,000. In a recent conversation with a congressperson we simplified the thing by suggesting that the money be paid to fishermen to not fish. At least the fish would come back and the whales would be saved. That's like paying a developer not to develop. This is basically what it has come to in Canada with the cod fisheries depleted and the government forced to support the fisherman.

Although the Gulf of Maine is the summer feeding ground for the right and humpback whales, their protection is minimal, most of it volunteer. The two organizations covering whale entanglements off the New England coast are tiny, have few boats and are self-funded. During the past year eleven whales were reported tangled in fishing gear. A sperm whale, some humpbacks, some minke whales, and a right whale were all found dead. The information is sketchy to say the least. On some, the species wasn't even identified. NMFS lists only 350 right whales left off the Maine coast and scientists believe that at this rate of kill there won't be any by the year 2000. Right whales are very elusive and swim alone, only three were sighted this past year.

In 1992 the harbor porpoise numbered 28,000 in the Gulf of Maine. The potential biological removal figure was 280. That's the number of safe removals by fishing gear before the species is threatened. The NMFS's figure for porpoise deaths was 1250. Last summer the NMFS and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration sent out a vessel and counted enough animals to keep them off the threatened list.

Since the Marine Mammal Protection Act as it stands today is a weakened version of the original bill of 1972, and since the agencies responsible for enforcing it are inadequate and incompetent, we need stronger laws to protect the remaining marine mammals. Action is needed today to see that the proposed Senate and House bills are not passed.

Bob and Amy LeVangie are from the Maine Animal Coalition.

Criminal Stupidity in the Deep

BY SEA OTTER

The Scripps Institute of Oceanography is planning an experiment to study global warming and its effects. It involves placing a loudspeaker off the coast of Big Sur, California and another near the island of Kauai in Hawaii, with listening devices at various distances from these points. They will then blast loud noises across the pacific, using the relatively new science of acoustic thermometry in order to study the warming of the ocean due to the greenhouse effect. The venture is being funded by $35 million from the Department of Defense.

The basic principal behind this is that sound travels faster through warmer water. The scientists involved claim that they will be able to detect even minute changes in sea temperature. The speakers will produce sounds at 195 decibels for twenty minutes six times a day for the first two months. Scripps says that they will assess the data collected in order to reduce future noise sessions to a minimum.

When news of the experiment was picked up by the media in March, there was an immediate public outcry. One of the greatest controversies surrounding the Scripps project is that it may induce a great amount of harm on the marine mammal populations living near the loudspeakers. The 195 decibel level of the experiment is ten million times as loud as the 120 decibels known to disturb whales. Futhermore, the loudspeaker off of Point Sur is situated smack dab in the middle of the Monterey Bay Marine Sanctuary which is home to many endangered species such as the sea otter and elephant seal. All told, the sponsors of the project say the noise could affect over 2/3 of a *million* marine mammals.

Because of the public outcry, Scripps has agreed to spend 2.9 million to observe the effect the blasts will have on the surrounding wildlife. At the first sign of a problem they say that they will stop the experiment. However, with so much money at risk it is difficult to imagine the wheels of the project stopping once they've gathered momentum.

A public hearing will be held in Santa Cruz on May 16. Additionally, you can write the National Marine Fisheries Service at 1315 East West Highway, 13 floor, Silver Springs, Maryland 20910. Tell them that we should spend the $35 million on research and development of alternative and clean energy sources so we can stop using the forms of energy which have brought us the global warming crisis in the first place.

Defending the Wolves of Aishihik

Friends of the Wolf Yukon Campaign, 1993-94

BY BILL HIPWELL, FRIENDS OF THE WOLF COORDINATOR

The Yukon Government is staggering, punch-drunk, after a multi-faceted campaign by Friends of the Wolf (FoW) and individual Earth Firstlers. The corruption and arrogance of the government leaders has been exposed. Collusion between a government ministry and trophy hunters' lobbyists has been revealed. Various acts of strategic civil disobedience, and reports of sabotage (tampering with fuel caches, destruction of radio telemetry gear on aircraft, and damage to "Renewable" Resources vehicles) and telephone harassment of government employees combined to make the winter of 1993-94 one that the Yukon Territorial Government (YTG) will never forget.

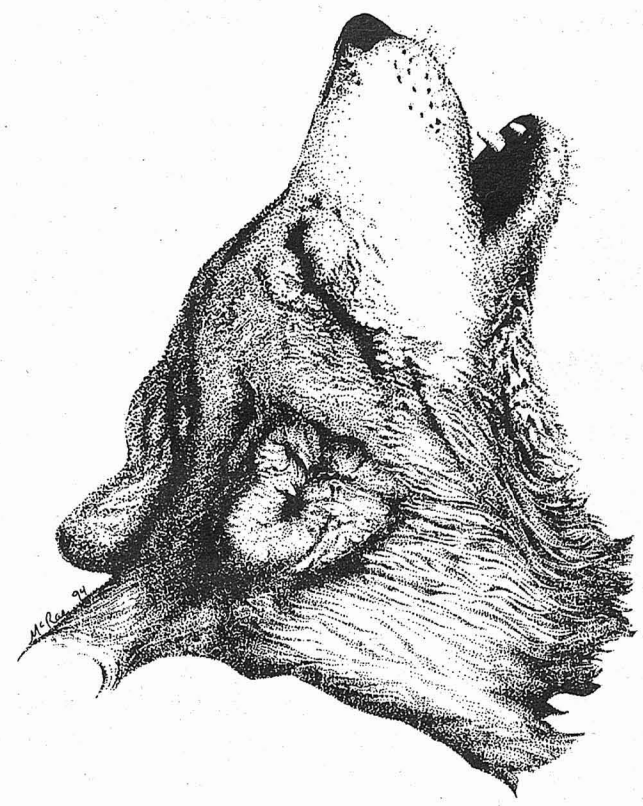
The campaign began in February of 1993, when I revived FoW, which was founded by Paul Watson. Paul, myself, and three other activists traveled to Whitehorse as soon as we heard of the YTG plan to kill 150 wolves in the 20,000-square-kilometer Aishihik region. A report of that intervention appeared in the *EF! Journal* last spring. The following ten months were spent building the organization, helping independent chapters in BC, Ontario, and the Yukon get set up, and preparing for a major campaign in the Yukon.

Year Two of the Yukon intervention began last December, when FoW BC's advance team of twelve arrived in Whitehorse. Within a week, the government adopted the Yukon Wolf Conservation and Management plan, which although anthropocentric, represented a significant advance for wolves in the north. Three weeks later, following a highway blockade, Friends of the Wolf exposed funding from the Foundation for North American Wild Sheep (a trophy hunters lobby group) for Yukon wolf-kill programs.

In January, three of us occupied the Yukon Liaison Office in Ottawa (two arrested for criminal mischief), and a week later, Friends of the Wolf BC occupied and shut down the Yukon Legislature (see article last issue).

I arrived in the Yukon in early February to work with FoW BC leader Dennis Alvey in refining strategy and launching a tourism boycott campaign. Five of us spent several days at a base camp one hundred miles into the Aishihik wilderness. Temperatures hovered around forty below zero. The base camp, established in mid-December, was effective in keeping government wolf-killers out of the central portion of the Aishihik.

A news story in mid-February revealed that the government leader, John Ostashek, had taken 68 moose in his last two years as a trophy-hunting guide in the Aishihik. Yet he still had the audacity in a radio interview to insist that outfitters should not have hunting quotas (or limits) like the rest of the people in the Yukon. (Ostashek also killed 98 Dall sheep in his last four years in the Aishihik—resulting in an unhealthily low sheep population. What a man!)



We received word from the *Journal* that our publication of the home phone numbers of the Government Leader John Ostashek, Minister of "Renewable" Resources Bill Brewster, and the Renewable Resources Communications Director Dennis Senger, has led to hundreds of phone calls from deep ecologists across North America. The communications (read: "propaganda") guy is apparently on the verge of a nervous breakdown. Awwwww! Keep up the good work (the phone numbers are listed below).

To finish off our campaign, we put up billboards at the BC and Alaskan borders (over existing ones, of course) urging a boycott of the Territory. Then we disrupted the end of the (in)famous Yukon Quest dog-sled race, a thousand mile event running from Fairbanks to Whitehorse. Dressed as a wolf, a fighter pilot, Ostashek, and Brewster, we played guitar and sang "Lone Wolf" by David Rea, a song about threatening wolf killers with aerial warfare. The reaction from the crowd was mixed (perhaps with frozen fingers at thirty below we didn't score points for musical talent), but the action did disrupt the end of the race and make US television as well as local media.

After determining that the government had stopped flying for this year, we mounted a strategic withdrawal to begin full-scale promotion of the tourism boycott of the Yukon (write and let them know why you won't visit). We highly doubt the government will risk another year like this one. We predict the program will be called off at the technical review in October. If not, we will be back in force, and make this winter look like a picnic. Field activists, mark next December to March on your calendars!

Friends of the Wolf is mounting numerous other campaigns. We remain all-volunteer and grassroots. We encourage EF!ers in any present or potential wolf habitat to start independent chapters. We can help you with letterhead, start-up costs, information, and activists. Contact the Friends of the Wolf office in Ottawa for further information (address below). We would also like to cooperate on any campaigns to protect wolf habitat from logging, roads etc.

No compromise in defense of the wolf! Keep howling!

Call: John Ostashek, Yukon Government Leader, 20 Evergreen Crescent, Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada, home phone (403) 668-7323, fax (403) 668-4197; Bill Brewster, Minister of Renewable Resources, home phone (403) 633-5057; Doug Phillips, Minister of Tourism, home phone (403) 667-6358; Dennis Senger, Communications Manager, home phone (403) 667-7715; and write all of the above at Yukon Government, POB 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 2C6

For more info contact Friends of the Wolf, POB 21032, Globe Postal Outlet, Ottawa, ONT, K1S 5N1 Canada, phone (613) 829-7742.

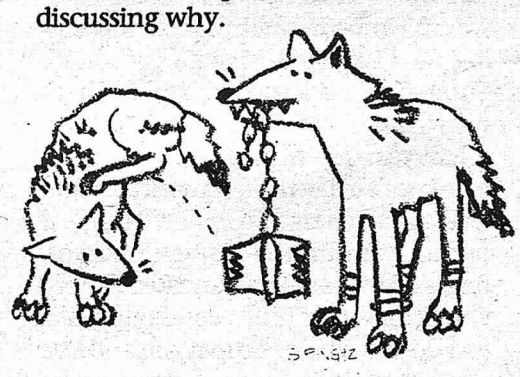
Where Is the ADC Program Headed?

Due to increased public scrutiny of the Animal Damage Control (ADC) program over the last few years, ADC administrators are scrambling to find ways to make the program publicly acceptable. Articles examining the ADC program have appeared recently in *Sierra Magazine, Wildlife Conservation,* and in numerous newsletters of regional and national groups fighting issues dealing with animal rights and welfare, outdoor issues, and wildlife conservation.

A massive public relations effort by ADC is currently underway to give the program a face lift. An outline detailing proposed accomplishments for the next three years is referred to as the "Futuring Process." This outline includes a name and logo change (as suggested by a public relations firm); adding a list of federal laws to the ADC policy manual; methods to measure results of control activities on target and non-target populations; providing each employee with a copy of the policy manual and the handbook; developing the programmatic EIS (which is eight years in the making and still not complete); monitoring plans; and increasing involvement in education activities with appropriate curriculum materials for kindergarten through graduate school! All of these actions are supposed to take place in one to three years.

In the fall of 1993, the "non-biased" arm of Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, called Evaluation Services, under whose umbrella ADC falls, conducted a series of meetings to look at the ADC program. Six meetings were planned, each one to consist of a different interest group affected by the program. Roughly, these meetings were comprised of the direct recipients of ADC assistance, such as cattle and sheep growers; government personnel involved with land or wildlife management; animal rights and welfare groups; and activists working for reform and abolition of ADC. Of the 42 people invited, 36 attended. All were apparently asked the same seven questions, and answers were subsequently formulated into a summary and presented to the administrators of the ADC program. Evaluation Services was not asked for any recommendations from their survey work.

The questions ranged from "Should there be wildlife management?" to "Who should do it?" to "What should ADC be doing differently in the future?" Wildlife Damage Review (WDR) attended the activist session along with nine others representing different groups or individual efforts. The four hour session was taped and attended by media despite protests from Evaluation Services. Although several of us had not met each other before, our group was unanimous that ADC must be abolished. The questions were not relevant in our discussion group, so we ended up discussing why.



The verbal reasoning was so compelling that WDR commissioned a report which utilized the combined experiences and documentation of those who attended. The report, titled "Waste, Fraud and Abuse in the US Animal Damage Control Program," was compiled and written by Pat Wolff of New West Research, one of the attendees. The reasoning presented in this report to eliminate the program is irrefutable. For a copy, send $10 to WDR, POB 85218, Tucson, AZ 85754; phone (602) 884-0883.

Another report, commissioned by Predator Project in collaboration with the Environmental Studies Program at the University of Montana, documents the funding channels for the ADC program, with information on how to affect funding at the county, state and federal levels. Its title is "Animal Damage Control: How Your Tax Dollars Subsidize Agri-Business by Killing and Harassing America's Wildlife." Order your copy by sending $10 to Predator Project, POB 6733, Bozeman, MT 59771, phone (406) 587-3389.

These are the first in a series of reports to scrutinize and dismantle the ADC program. We'll keep you posted.

—WILDLIFE DAMAGE REVIEW

PENNSYLVANIA STATE FORESTS
SLATED FOR THE CHAINSAW

BY BART SEMCER

Today, almost 60 percent of Pennsylvania, some 17 million acres, is considered to be "timberland." A century after the chainsaw massacre of the Appalachians, the forests of the Allegheny, Susquehanna, and the Delaware are returning, with some demonstrating strong old growth potential and with small virgin tracts still being discovered. But just as native ecosystems begin to regain a hold in the region, the US Forest Service (USFS), in an inventory of Pennsylvania's forests released this year, declared that 93 percent of the acreage considered to be "timberland" was "appropriate and available for harvest." In response, the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry (PBF), which oversees some 460,000 acres, has drafted a document titled "Heading Into Our Second Century of Stewardship," a 15-year management plan for the state's forests, and a recipe for widespread ecosystem destruction.

photo by Karen Turk

New forest road in the Allegheny National Forest.

The plan, which focuses exclusively on timber production, would increase logging by 50 percent over the next five years. Additionally it calls for 100-acre clearcut limits on all but three state forests, where the allowable limit would be 50 acres in order to satisfy aesthetic concerns. The Bureau has freely admitted that these large acreages, when compared with the USFS limit of 40 acres, are intended to satisfy economic concerns and accommodates mechanized harvesting.

Pennsylvania's forests of oak, cherry, beech and poplar are today among the most valuable in North America. At 33 trillion board feet, Pennsylvania is home to America's largest hardwood reserve, and with a billion board feet a year leaving the state, it leads the country in the production of hardwood timber. Today timber is the sixth largest employer in the state, providing nine percent of the state's jobs and 14 percent of its industrial employment.

The hardwoods of Pennsylvania remain more prized that those to the south because slower growth, combined with the soils of the region, lend to the wood the finer quality which is sought after for products such as doors and veneer, the sheets of fine wood used in furniture production.

The plan proposed by the PBF is completely inadequate and unacceptable. While referring to maintaining biodiversity and implementing "ecosystem management," it offers no specific guidelines for accomplishing such, and fails to even suggest compiling an inventory of Pennsylvania's native biodiversity. Likewise, the proposal to increase logging by 50 percent, with emphasis on large clearcuts, demonstrates little concern for the protection of wildlife, the maintenance of long-term productivity or overall sustainability, given the current scientific knowledge. Pennsylvania has lost over 100 plant and animal species in the last 100 years. In addition, over 15 percent of the state's plant and animal species are considered to be threatened or endangered. Issues such as old growth, fragmentation, and exotic species are all but ignored, with the PBF policy being that they will be dealt with "when applying forest management practices." If the diversity of life is to be preserved in Pennsylvania, large tracts of public land, like state forests, will play a necessary role. The proposal to continue, let alone increase logging, seriously jeopardizes the hope of ecosystem recovery in the region.

The plan also fails to discuss the widespread problem of deer browsing on state land and the simplification of biological elements within the forest as a result of such. The prescription for continued and increased clearcutting will only increase deer habitat and food supply, perpetuating this destructive outbreak.

In creating its plan, the PBF has only allowed for public response, not participation. Similarly, citizens have no right to administrative appeal as a response to proposed projects.

In reaction to the PBF's sham, Preserve Appalachian Wilderness (PAW) has submitted a report to the PBF entitled "Facing the Conservation Challenge—A Long-Term Vision for PA State Forests," which outlines and details those issues which the state conveniently ignored. The report covers issues such as: arguments for preserving native biodiversity, the effects of climate of forest ecosystems, extinctions and ecosystem services, maintenance of a genetic library, indirect endangering of species, old growth, and a discussion of reserve model theory and a call for the creation of a system of core wilderness reserves connected by corridors and surrounded by buffer zones. PAW has also recommended that the PBF hire a staff of ecologists, environmental scientists and specialists other than foresters so that conservation goals can be better infused into forest management, and that a system by which the PBF's proposals can be appealed be created.

Lehigh Valley Earth First!, in its comments on the proposed plan, essentially agreed with the PAW report and proposals. Our differences lie in that our position is that no logging should be allowed at all in Pennsylvania's state forests and that native ecosystems should be allowed to return in their entirety and across as much of their former range as is now possible. Additionally it is our position that the PBF should begin the process of identifying private forest holdings of ecological significance and that the state should purchase them for ecosystem preservation.

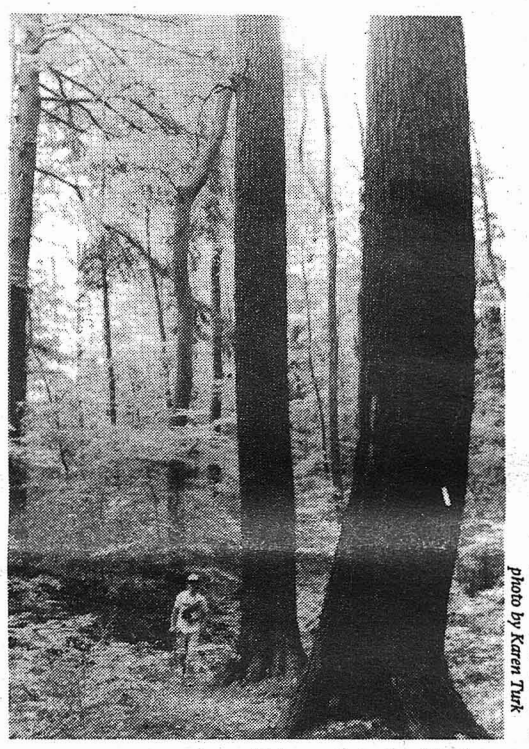


photo by Karen Turk

Old growth in the Allegheny.

The comment period for the PBF's plan ended December 27, but all are still encouraged to write and pressure for the acceptance of EF!'s or PAW's proposals.

Write to James Nelson, Chief, Bureau of Forestry, POB 8552, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8552.

A copy of PAW's proposal, which runs 50 pages, can be obtained for a $5 donation from Preserve Appalachian Wilderness-Allegheny Task Force, 57 Choate St., Newark, DE 19711.

The Fight for Mt. Blue Continues

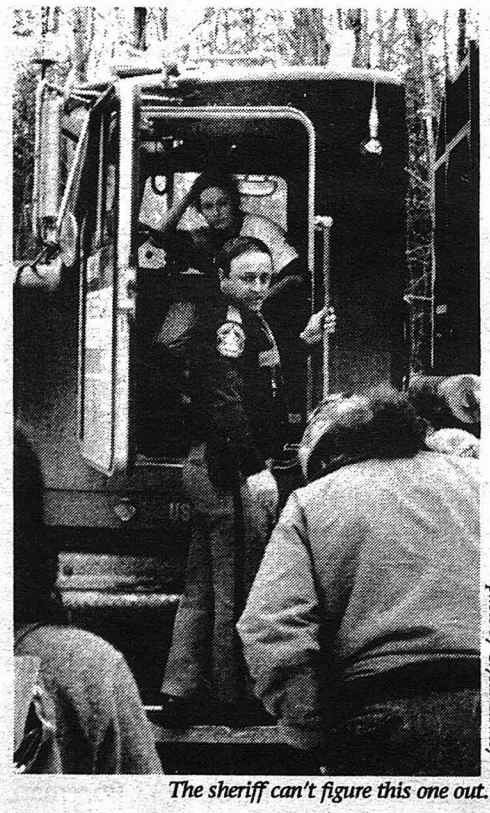


photo by Crystal Rowley

The sheriff can't figure this one out.

The cutting has stopped for the season in Maine's Mt. Blue State Park, where Timberlands, Inc., continues to log on 1100 acres of state park land. Timberlands states they will be back next year.

Last year our roadblocks netted close to a week's delay the last month and 35 arrests—all charges dropped. This year our focus shifted to Timberslime's offices and those of Parks and Recreation. Christmas caroling, vaudeville-like lockdowns, office occupations and tree sits in Timberslime's owners' front yard (complete with sympathetic Timberslime employees) quickly brought the issue to a boil.

Needing a grand conclusion, we confronted post cutting truck operations. On March 7, everyone discovered how much work a slasher can do after all its tires misplace their valve stems—none. The price—one arrest for criminal mischief. The next day was the most fun. We found an unprotected truck with the driver loading logs. So someone climbed up into the cab and shut the rig down. Needless to say there were quite a few unhappy people. But the truck was locked and the keys had mysteriously disappeared. What ensued was a period of fun, souvenir photos and control (ours). Finally a set of spare keys arrived. But then our good cop discovered another promo for krypto locks. The steering wheel and our intrepid EF!er had grown rather fond of each other. It took a hacksaw to remove her.

The rest of the afternoon brought three more arrests, including another attempt at the truck cab and an assault(?) on a cop. Business as usual had been given the day off. And the one reporter who was there throughout wrote a great story.

So where are we now? The cutting is over for the year. We are anxious to bring our misdemeanors to jury trial, hopefully with the help of some recently met high-strung criminal lawyers.

Two months of continuous actions have led last year's smallish Mt. Blue coalition to become a movement to be reckoned with in the status quo forestry of the powers that be.

On the cut, our goal is to get an injunction and open the process up again to challenge the ethics and economics, and the cutting plan itself.

What you can do:

If anyone has any success-proven injunction strategy (especially starting out without standing—yeah, we might not have standing), please send that along to the Solon EF! address (in the directory). We hate to openly solicit letters on tree flesh or other technodeath nuisances, but if you must, write to Herb Heartless, Parks and Recreation, ME DOC, State House Station 22, Disgusta, ME 04333. Demand that the cut be stopped.

Being in the park isn't quite as much fun anymore, especially if you're a tree.

For more info, contact Solon EF!, or Natalie or John at the Mt. Blue Coalition, 14 Clark Ave., Brattleboro, VT 05301, phone (802) 257-4383.

SUPPORT JAILED ACTIVISTS!

A Letter from the Pokey in Spokey

Here it is, April 5, and I have yet to motivate my brain to get something written for this issue of the Journal. There is, of course, no way for me to blow it off as the editors of the last issue had the foresight to put in print that I'd be writing something. Nor do I have the excuse that I've been busy and haven't had the time. Since I'm too embarrassed to be honest and admit that my brain is currently in the process of extreme atrophy, I guess I'll just get on with it.

Jail, as many of you know, is a rather unpleasant experience. There are, of course, all the usual complaints...the food is pale and unimaginative, generally either under or overcooked and often exits in the same form it entered. The clothes are of an appealing shade of forest-green, a more vibrant color than any of the vegetables I receive, but are 50/50 (which these same vegetable may also be). I have to tolerate a light on in my cell 24 hours a day so I can be observed even in my sleep. Then there's the television, which Mr. Ryberg has expounded on sufficiently [*see Eostar EF!J*], so I will reserve any further comment. But these are all things I've gotten used to over the weeks.

There are other things about this place I will never get used to. My life is now controlled and has reverted back to the status of a seventh grader, with jailers acting as glorified baby-sitters. I am to bathe every two days and have my bed made (properly) between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. I am allowed a maximum of two pieces of fruit in my cell at a time, any more of which will get me 24 hours of lock-down. Extra laundry, 24 hours. No feet on the wall. No tipping back in the chairs. No singing. No raising the voice. No arguing. Horseplay...24 hours. I am often concerned about being nailed for impure thinking and am grateful that technology for thought policing has not been perfected (yet). Of course, my natural respect for authority has made all these little annoyances much easier...

There is just one women's module in the jail. Kim was moved from her previous location of relative isolation to this module about two weeks after I was. Unfortunately, the assistant US attorney is being unusually spiteful. He has requested a separation order, barring us from any contact or communication. To ensure this separation, we are placed in lock-down during alternating hours of the day, making for a lot of time in isolation. Should we fail to comply with this request, one of us will be relocated to Yakima, a nasty, under-budgeted hole. Needless to say, we're not pushing the issue. His request stems from his concern that, should we have our "own little support group" here, our incarceration would not be coercive. As if complete removal from community and being locked indoors for an unspecified number of months isn't enough.

The way things ought to be.

The reality of the situation is that our incarceration, as I see it, isn't for coercive reasons, nor is it punitive. The issue is not gathering evidence and solving a crime. And the possibility that it ever was is open to debate. At any rate, what is now occurring is best described as a bureaucratic temper-tantrum. The state, unable to force testimony from anyone after two years and many thousands of dollars is, simply put, throwing a fit.

The process of investigation and "justice" has become nothing more than a gross display of power. If you won't talk, we will take away your freedom. If you won't talk, we will harass your friends and intimidate your family. We will demonstrate for you who holds the power, who runs the system, who owns the state. Just because we can.

And if that doesn't work, we will make you eat uncooked lentil goulash and canned cling peaches in heavy syrup! HA!! We'll see just how much you can take!

Well, you can see just how absurd the situation is. But I think I'll have the last laugh yet. You see, there's something these people just don't get...something their cold hearts and little bureaucratic minds can't seem to grasp. And that is that their power, in the big picture, means absolutely nothing. It is a power that does not translate into my version of reality: the world of the forests, the oceans, the deserts and the prairies. It's a mockery, a sham. And if I weren't in jail, it would be more laughable.

It's this thought that makes jail bearable. I can occasionally chuckle at it all despite the wretched food and the cheesy Harlequin romance novels. It is not easy missing spring, and I am still coming to terms with the fact that I will, most likely, lose out on the summer as well. I miss the sounds of the river and the voices of the returning birds, the feel of the sun and smell of the rain-dampened earth. I am angered that this has all been taken from me. I even miss all the low-baggers in Missoula.

But despite their most evil intentions and exhaustive efforts, I intend to stay right here with my mouth shut, except for the occasional laughter that escapes when I contemplate the fact that we're winning...

—Deb Stout

Support for Deb and Kim can be sent to the Activists Support Network, POB 9286 Missoula, MT 59807. Books and money are requested. Make checks payable to the Activists Support Network. Write letters directly to Deb Stout or Kim Trimiew at Spokane County Jail, W 1100 Mallon Spokane, WA 99260.

Montana Monkeywrenchers Sentenced

Whitefish, Montana, activists Michael and Sean Carter were sentenced April 1, 1994, for a variety of felonies, including tree spiking, vandalizing road construction machinery, and cutting down billboards in Flathead County from 1989 to 1991. The brothers made their final appearance in District Court before Judge Michael Keedy after pleading guilty to the case in December, 1993.

The brothers both confessed to tree spiking and cutting down an Exxon billboard with an acetylene torch, and received a total of nine years, all suspended, and were ordered to pay restitution to the Department of State Lands and a private sign owner.

In addition, Michael Carter admitted to vandalizing road construction machinery north of Whitefish in the summer of 1991. For this, Judge Keedy gave him a maximum ten-year prison sentence, all time suspended, and directed Michael to spend 90 days in the Flathead County Jail. Commenting that the costly damage done to the machines showed a "flagrant disregard for property rights," Keedy told Carter, "I think you at least temporarily abandoned all reason and responsibility."

Michael said that given the circumstances of the actions, and that both Keedy and State Attorney Tom Esch are both facing reelection this year, the sentence was as fair as he could reasonably expect. "I'm not what you'd call thrilled about cooling off in jail," he said, "nor about this astonishing amount of restitution, but objectively speaking, it was appropriate. It could have got really ugly, really fast." Carter noted that a five-year prison sentence was a real possibility, and credited his attorney's skill and affable relationship to the judge as an important aspect of the relatively lenient sentence.

The Carters are responsible for about $42,000 of restitution and 200 hours of community service each. They still owe about $8,000 in attorney's fees, and respectfully request any assistance anyone can provide. Checks can be made payable to the Carter Legal Defense Fund, c/o Keep It Wild!, POB 1121, Whitefish, MT 59937. Michael will be a guest of the county for a few months, and would love to hear from people; he can be reached at the Flathead County Detention Center, 800 S. Main, Kalispell, MT 59901. The Carters deeply appreciate your support.

Jaguar Liberated

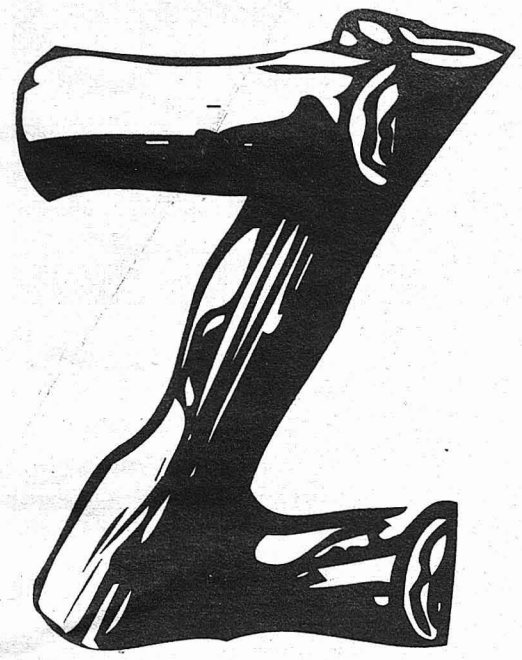
Recent information obtained from the Bernalillo County Court Clerk and District Attorney's office have revealed no evidence supporting Anthony Miller's claims that he was incarcerated for liberating animals. Last issue we printed a story that Mr. Miller set free 250 wild horses captured by federal and state agencies in New Mexico. In following up on the story, Last Chance for Animals (LCA) asked Mr. Miller to send them a copy of his court papers. Upon receiving the copies of the papers sent by Mr. Miller, LCA determined that the papers had been altered. A request was then made for county records which revealed that Mr. Miller had been incarcerated for liberating a Jaguar (blue, 1991). Upon further investigation, they found that Mr. Miller is known to seek contact with organizations who support jailed animal rights activists. Although we applaud Mr. Miller for liberating vehicles from their owners, we are disgusted that he stooped so low as to pose as an animal liberator. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused our readers.

Mark Davis was convicted of monkeywrenching and has been in jail for two and a half years. He would really appreciate yours letters and financial support. Write him or send postal money orders to: Mark Davis #23106-008, Federal Prison Camp, PO Box 1000, Boron, CA 93596.

Other important addresses: National Activist Network, POB 19515, Sacramento, CA 95919, (916) 452-7179.

ALF Supporters Group, BCM 1160, London WC1N 3XX, UK.

North American ALF Support Group, POB 8673, Victoria, BC V8X 3S2, Canada.



BY MARK HUBBARD

Cutting trees. For more than two decades in the Northwest, this act, in its industrial form, has created a controversy that has spread like a wildfire through the nation. What was once a local fight to save some big trees is now a nationwide battle to save our forest ecosystems. In every bioregion around the country, the call has gone out to stop. Stop the clearcutting. Stop the overcutting. Stop degrading our water quality and fisheries. Stop the destruction of our ecosystems. And who is calling for a halt to these activities? Not just environmental activists, but scientists, employees in the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, and everyday citizens, who upon learning what havoc has been wrought on our federal lands, are demanding that our federal government do better.

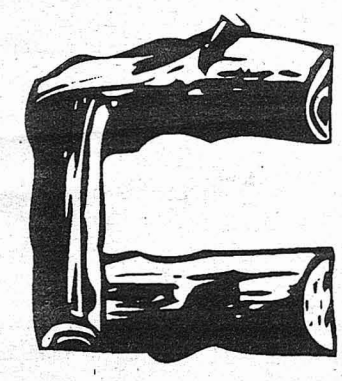
Out of this controversy over our forests, a call has emerged from the wilderness. It is a call that started off as a lone voice in the hills, but has since gained in strength and numbers. It is the call for an end to commercial logging on federal lands.

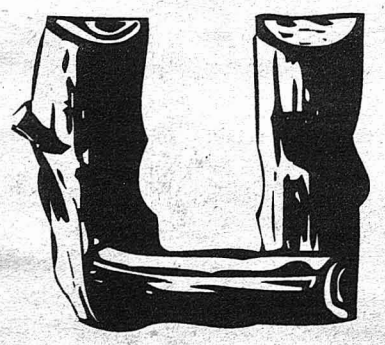
Zero-cut, no-cut, no commercial logging. However you say it, the message is clear. Due to excessive road building and logging for economic gain, our forest ecosystems are but tattered remnants of their former selves. The more we learn about these ecosystems, the more we understand the need to restrict logging and other destructive activities to make up for past abuses.

So how do we stop commercial logging on federal lands? The first step is education. We must communicate a basic understanding of why commercial logging on federal lands must stop and what zero-cut really means. This can be done by looking at the science, the economics, the law and the politics.

The Science

In the Pacific Northwest, the controversy over the northern spotted owl has forced the federal government to produce the most detailed scientific assessment of any forest ecosystem in the world. The resulting science has shown us that in order to maintain viable populations of all native forest species across the landscape, we need to reduce logging down to near-zero levels. The Forest Ecosystem Management Assessment Team (assembled in 1993 under the direction of President Clinton) produced a report showing that the only way to ensure a moderate to good chance of maintaining viable populations of all species in forests west of the Cascades is to halt virtually all logging on federal lands. Unfortunately, the Clinton Administration did not choose an alternative that heeded this science. According to the government's own documents, the chosen alternative (Option 9) for Clinton's Forest Plan will allow for many species to be "extirpated" from federal lands. Given the increased overcutting on private lands in the Northwest, extirpation from *federal* lands is certain to mean extinction for these species.





Scientific evidence has been crucial in driving the policy debate over Northwest forests. Without the science, species would not be listed under the Endangered Species Act, courts would not have evidence to base injunctions on, and activists would not have a valuable tool to educate Congress and the public with. In the Northwest, the science has helped chip away at the politics of forest destruction for profit. (Unfortunately, as evidenced by the Clinton Forest Plan, politics still holds sway).

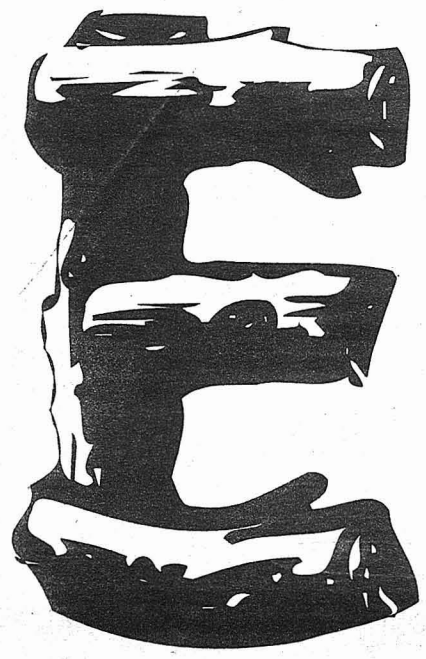
Elsewhere in the forests of California, Oregon, Washington, and Idaho, scientific teams are beginning to assess the forest ecosystem in the bioregion east of the Cascade crest: the eastside forests. Given that eastside forests have been even more abused than westside forests (e.g. fire suppression, grazing, less old growth and roadless areas left, etc.), it is likely the scientists will recommend a virtual halt to logging on federal lands in these forests also.

The same dire warnings are being heard around the country. As scientists learn more about the particular ecosystem they are studying, they find hundreds of species are declining at alarming rates. The majority of watersheds in the forests have substandard water quality, and the ecosystems themselves are unraveling. In most cases, the federal forest lands are reaching a threshold of no return, and most surrounding private lands have been logged so heavily and so repeatedly that they can not support the native species in the ecosystem.

The lessons science provides are invaluable. In each region around the country, citizens must read the scientific findings being made about their bioregion's ecosystem. Activists must work with scientists to use the specific knowledge about their immediate ecosystem to educate, inform and influence public debate. Emotional appeals and political arguments are important, and should still be used, but sound science has proven to be the most effective tool in changing forest policy under existing law.

The Economics

The timber industry would have us believe that if logging on federal lands is reduced even slightly, the result will be economic disaster for timber mills, the housing market, and the American economy as a whole. However, the facts indicate otherwise. In 1992, approximately 90 billion board feet of timber was sold from United States forests. Of that 90 billion board feet, only 4.5 billion came from federal lands. This means only five percent of the total timber volume sold in the United States in 1992 came from federal lands. *Five percent.* This five percent could easily be made up for by recycling lumber and restricting log exports. Last year, in the Pacific Northwest alone, 2 billion board feet of raw logs and minimally processed wood products were shipped overseas instead of being infused into local economies. Additionally, large volumes of lumber and wood products are thrown into our landfills each year instead of being recycled back into the "supply" stream. By just looking at recycling and restrictions on log exports, it would not be hard to find the volume the industry so desperately claims it needs.



Ending logging on federal lands will mean a loss of some jobs in the timber industry. However, in many instances most of these jobs are on the verge of ending already. The increasing mechanization of the industry has steadily eroded timber jobs around the country. The overcutting on both private and federal lands in many regions has removed much of the sustainable timber base. In the Northwest, for example, most experts agree that the old growth will run out within a decade if logging continues at present rates. And the jobs will go with it. Ending commercial logging on federal lands may bring about a loss of some jobs earlier than expected, but they were not long-term sustainable jobs to begin with.

Sustainable jobs and sustainable economies can be created by ending commercial logging on federal lands. If one takes a medium or long-term economic view, it is clear that there is more money to be found in forest and watershed restoration, fishing, recreation and tourism jobs — all of which are sustainable — than there is in the short term jobs logging provides. Economic indicators already show this to be true. In many states where National Forests are present (e.g. Oregon), recreation and tourism industries are on the rise, while the timber industry is on the decline.

There are other direct economic benefits to ending commercial logging on federal lands. Ending below-cost timber sales and eliminating costly road maintenance will save the federal government, and taxpayers, millions of dollars. Ending the bloated timber-sale planning bureaucracy in the Forest Service and BLM will save additional millions.

The economic arguments for ending commercial logging on federal lands are compelling. Many fiscal conservatives may join in the fight to end logging once they realize that taxpayers are being swindled out of millions of dollars to subsidize the destruction of their public lands.

The Law

There are two important laws that govern the activities of the federal government on Forest Service lands. These are the National Forest Management Act (NFMA) and the Endangered Species Act (ESA). (The Federal Land Policy Management Act and O&C Act apply to BLM forest lands, but this article will only focus on laws affecting Forest Service lands, as the Forest Service manages the vast majority of our federal forests.) At President Clinton's 1993 Northwest Forest Summit, Jack Ward Thomas (since appointed Forest Service Chief) offered one of the best explanations of how the two laws, NFMA and the ESA, work together to guide forest management on our federal lands. He said:

> The NFMA is a tough law. It calls for the maintenance of viable populations of native and non-native vertebrates well distributed across the landscape. This law should be taken seriously, the federal courts have said it should be considered seriously.
>
> If you don't perform under the NFMA, you get to go to the penalty box called the Endangered Species Act. We often forget that the first paragraph of the ESA says that it's not the species that is listed, it's the ecosystem on which the species depends.
>
> If you consider these two things in combination with the case law, it seems obvious to me that we have a de facto policy of biodiversity protection, particularly on national forest lands. In fact biodiversity protection becomes an overriding objective of federal land management.

The lessons learned in the Pacific Northwest regarding the protection of certain species have shown us that too much logging of the ecosystem has already taken place. As a result, viable populations of northern spotted owls and marbled murrelets could not be maintained and court injunctions stopped the logging of the forest ecosystem. As indicated above, scientific studies now show us that logging must nearly come to an end on federal lands in the Northwest in order to maintain viable populations of forest species. It is clear that compliance with the NFMA and the ESA requires a virtual halt to all logging in the Northwest.

Around the country, similar legal cases are being mounted to enforce NFMA and the ESA. The grizzly bear, the red-cockaded woodpecker, the Mexican spotted owl, the northern goshawk and a multitude of salmon runs across the country—are all threatened by increased logging and roadbuilding in their respective forest ecosystems. The requirements of NFMA and the ESA, along with the mounting science showing that more habitat preservation is required, create a compelling case to slow or halt logging in many of the ecosystems where these species exist.

But under existing law, the best science and the most objective court systems will still not be enough to end commercial logging on federal lands.

The Politics

In this article, the references to ending commercial logging on federal lands have all been qualified; "near-zero" and "virtual halt" are the phrases most commonly used. This is because an argument based on science alone reaches a conclusion that still allows for some commercial cutting. In the Pacific Northwest, the science indicates that protection of all plant and animal species will still allow an estimated 200 million board feet to be cut annually from federal lands.

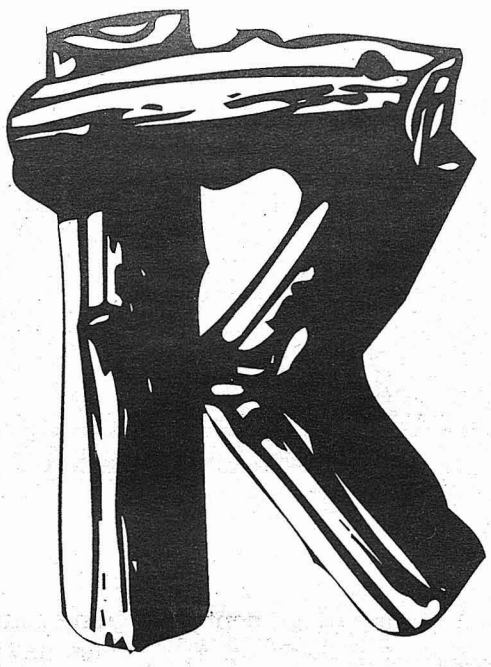
Based on this science, and other factors, the Oregon Natural Resources Council (ONRC) recently called for an end to commercial logging on federal lands in the Pacific Northwest. The science led ONRC to make the political leap to zero-cut. But science alone was not the deciding factor. With the allowable cut at such a low level, a value judgment based on economics, recreation, and other societal values was made. ONRC argues that:

1) such a small timber program cannot justify the multi-million dollar federal timber sale bureaucracy bent on further destruction of the forest ecosystem; the huge amount of money pumped into the federal timber sale program produces such a small timber supply on the tail end that it just can't be justified;

2) compliance with NFMA and the ESA create a near-zero cut; compliance with additional laws such as the Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act and the National Environmental Policy Act may further reduce cutting levels;

3) other societal concerns for recreation, clean drinking water, and wilderness values demand that commercial logging end on federal lands in the Pacific Northwest.

In some limited circumstances, such as in stands overstocked due to fire suppression, the careful use of a chainsaw as a tool for ecological restoration may be necessary. However, history has shown that the chainsaw is never an ecological restoration tool when used in the context of a timber sale. Eliminating the timber sale part of the equation helps insure that any use of a chainsaw will be for true ecosystem management, not ecosystem destruction for private profit.



ONRC is not the first group to advocate for an end to commercial logging on federal lands. Many other groups have called for zero-cut on all federal lands or on federal lands in their region. For many years the Native Forest Council in Oregon was the lone voice in the wilderness, calling for a halt to all logging on federal lands. In recent years, the Native Forest Council has been joined by groups like Heartwood in Indiana, and numerous chapters of the Sierra Club around the country in calling for an end to logging on federal lands. Many people are realizing that zero-cut is in fact a moderate position. In many instances a more radical proposal of restricting logging on private lands and restoring wilderness is required to save forest ecosystems.

National environmental groups have not yet joined the call. But political winds within many of these organizations are pushing them ever closer to a zero-cut position. The recent Sierra Club initiative calling for no logging on federal lands is an example of local chapters pushing the leadership of a national organization toward a zero-cut goal. Additionally, national environmental groups like the Wilderness Society made comments on the Clinton Forest Plan that if adhered to by the federal government, would result in zero-cut. It seems that the national groups are already there, they just aren't ready to say it.

Across the country, more and more people are making the decision that no commercial logging should occur on their National Forests and BLM lands. Environmental groups are listening to their members and making the call in public arenas. People are beginning to ask leaders the relevant question: If we continue to allow cutting on our public lands, what species are you willing to sacrifice, and whose watershed will be polluted?

GATT ATTACK

BY GWEN MARSHALL, SOUTHWEST OHIO TRADE CAMPAIGN

We all know that the goal of the Wise Use Movement is to promote extractive/consumptive land uses for profit by disguising their true goals under misleading names and rhetoric. Imagine the Wise Use Movement in control of global politics under a "World Trade Organization" and you have what the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) has become.

The GATT, which up to now has basically been a trade contract between countries, has been around since 1948. What is new is that the negotiations completed on December 15, 1993 for this round of GATT would impact areas far beyond normal tariffs. Called the Uruguay Round, this round of the GATT would create a new international organization called the World Trade Organization (WTO) which would replace the current GATT. The 117 countries would be called members and it would be each member's obligation to ensure that their domestic laws conform with the substantive trade rules of the WTO.

During the Uruguay Round, negotiations were expanded to create global trade rules regarding "non-tariff" barriers to trade. This would give the WTO power to impose new restraints on non tariff issues, such as domestic laws, which impact international trade. National laws and goals would be required to take a back seat to corporate profit goals. No member would be allowed to protect resources for use of domestic industries without risking challenge from another member of the WTO.

Any member could challenge the environmental or safety standards of another country under the guise of "illegal trade barriers." All disputes will be deliberated in secret by a three member committee of the WTO. To qualify to be a member of the committee, individuals must have a history of protecting trade related special interests.

Forest activists are used to fighting the Forest Service's bias to protect our forests and having to appeal their decisions to the same bodies that made the original decision. A country trying to protect a domestic law under GATT will find basically the same process as activists with the Forest Service. Decisions will be enforced by fines or sanctions if the offending country doesn't change its law or policy.

So if you were wondering why the Clinton Administration didn't advocate the obvious solution to supplying timber for the Pacific Northwest of halting raw log exports, blame GATT. Laws protecting dolphins from tuna harvesters and banning raw log exports could be eliminated under GATT.

Cutting our forests to supply chip mills that export pulp for paper to be manufactured outside of our country, or the use of expensive foreign made equipment for logging are examples of bad economics. Both send the wealth of the forest community out of the region leaving the region poorer as a result. Work to better the economy of rural communities by doing value added production at the regional level will be seriously hampered if not prevented under the current round of GATT.

If the GATT passes and the WTO is put in place there will never be another round of GATT for the US Congress to approve or disapprove. The prospect of a "Green Round" is being held out to get environmentalist support, but this is just a deceptive attempt to again divide the environmentalists as with NAFTA. The support base of the environmental groups that are considering supporting GATT have more in common with the philosophy of the wise use movement than the conservation movement. GATT, with its goal of increasing world trade by accelerating consumption of natural resources, is incompatible with conservation goals.

Most environmental activists do not have time to fight full time for the defeat of GATT. This is a form of political reality, but so is the fact that if we lose the fight against this round of GATT we may also lose all of the gains already made through our environmental activism.

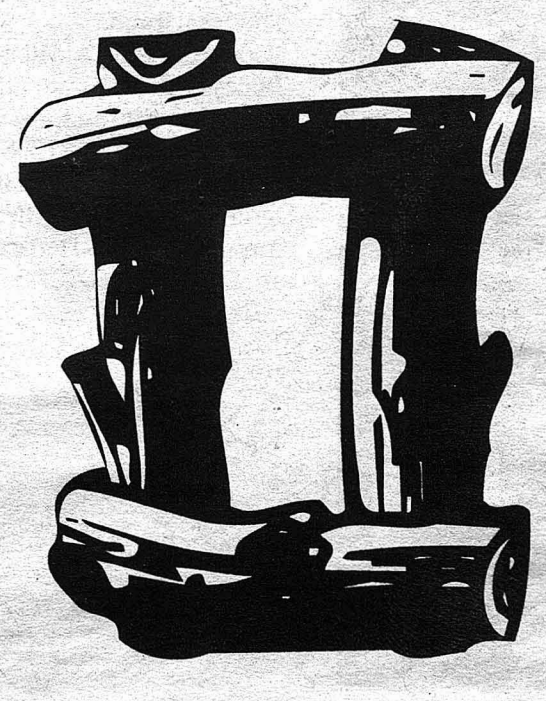
My suggestion is to let your members of Congress and others know of your concerns about this GATT. Then start to form alliances with groups such as farmers, labor unionists, textile workers, indigenous people and others who similarly realize the harm that will come to them with the implementation of this round of GATT. In doing so you will not only be working for a common cause, but you can use the opportunity to build alliances for other major battles that lie ahead.

Information supplied by Gwen Marshall, Southwest Ohio Trade Campaign, (513) 761-6978. For more information contact the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy at (612) 379-5980, Citizens Trade Campaign at (202) 879-4298 or Public Citizen at (202) 546-4996.

The Conclusion

What will it take to end commercial logging on federal lands? In the Pacific Northwest, strategic lawsuits and timely scientific findings have attempted to achieve the goal. But in many regions the science is not yet complete and the federal government has become more adept at fending off lawsuits. In all cases, even with additional ecological protections in place, commercial logging will still occur.

Only an act of Congress will accomplish the goal of ending commercial logging on federal lands. As everyone knows, pushing legislation through Congress is messy business, with no guarantees of actually reaching the goal that is desired. But the goal is worthy, and most importantly, the goal is *correct*. It stakes out the moral high ground. And this is the stuff of which grassroots campaigns are made!

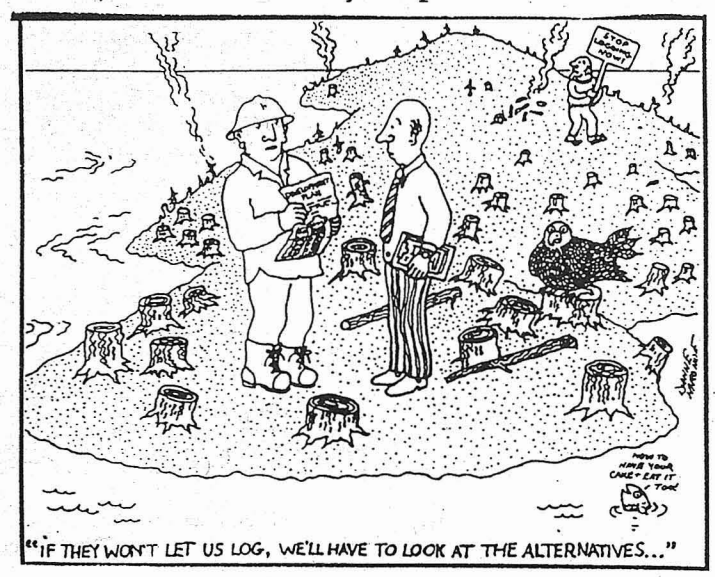


Mark Hubbard is a staff attorney for the Oregon Natural Resources Council. He has won over one hundred timber sale appeals against the US Forest Service in Oregon.

PACFISH Released

To Sink or Swim

On Friday, March 25, the United States Forest Service (USFS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) released the long awaited PACFISH, a strategy for restoring and protecting habitat for federally owned anadromous fisheries (fish that travel from the ocean to fresh water to spawn) and their watersheds in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and California outside of the range of the northern spotted owl. PACFISH is an interim management strategy that the federal government will follow for approximately 18 months while geographically specific environmental impact studies (EISs) are developed for Eastside forests and other areas covered by this plan.



Alternative 4 calls for "the designation of Key Watersheds within the proposed action area," which would be "selected from among those that are important to at-risk anadromous fish stocks, or those that are providing, or are readily capable of being restored to provide 'good' anadromous fish habitat." Watershed Analysis would screen and characterize watershed conditions, and would be used to identify watersheds in need of immediate attention and restoration.

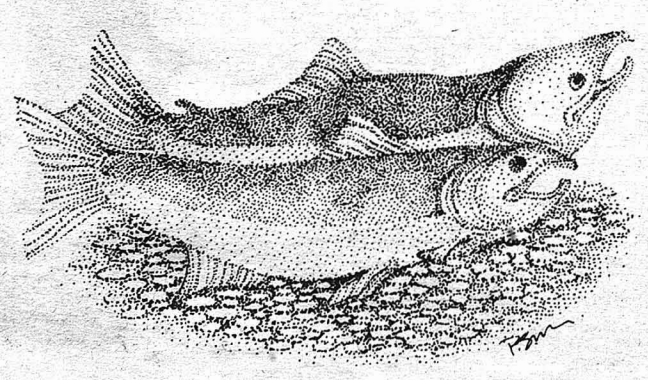
The Preferred Alternative in the environmental assesment establishes interim Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCAs) to "identify areas in watersheds that are most sensitive to management. These interim RHCAs would consist of riparian corridors extending 300 feet on either side of fish-bearing streams, 150 feet on either side of permanent non-fish-bearing streams and around ponds, reservoirs and wetlands greater than one acre, and 100 feet in Key Watersheds (50 feet in non-key watersheds) on either side of seasonally flowing or intermittent streams and around wetlands less than one acre and landslides and landslide-prone areas. In "non-forested rangeland ecosystems," the interim RHCA width for permanently flowing fish-bearing and non-fish-bearing streams would be the extent of the 100-year floodplain.

At first glance, several PACFISH shortcomings are evident. This EA applies only to anadromous fisheries, and fails to address resident fish, such as bulltrout. There is no list of critical watersheds, nor a method or criteria naming them. More important, there is no focus on protecting the old-growth forests that are a significant component of fisheries habitat in the watersheds of the West. While FEMAT hung its strategy on the protection of Ancient Forests in identified Key Watersheds, PACFISH provides no logging restrictions, no protection of roadless areas and no protection of old-growth forests.

PACFISH's riparian corridors are identical to FEMAT's Draft Option 9, which means that ephemeral streams are given less protection outside of Key Watersheds than the Final EIS for the northern spotted owl forests. PACFISH focuses on riparian conditions and instream strategies and fails to take into account upstream factors affecting fisheries habitat.

Copies of the EA will be made available at Forest Service Regional Offices and BLM state offices. To request a copy, call 202/205-0957. For further information contact Cindy Deacon Williams (Forest Service) at 202/205-1208 or Rick Swanson (BLM) at 202/452-7770.

Comments on PACFISH, and the accompanying Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) should be addressed to "PACFISH EA," Forest Service, US Department of Agriculture, POB 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090.



Save French Creek

By Mike Medberry

The 170,000 acre French Creek/Patrick Butte roadless area on the Payette National Forest in Idaho is now being seriously threatened by the United States Forest Service (USFS) and the timber Industry. Rugged, beautiful, and remote, the French Creek proposed wilderness is the target of a systematic attempt by the USFS to log and build roads through the heart of a Wilderness proposed by conservationists. The Forest Service plans include 57 miles of new road construction and logging at least 32,000 acres of prime wildlife habitat and potential Wilderness. What's worse, the logging is designed to cut up the area so that much of it will be forever ineligible for Wilderness protection by the end of the year.

In two years time, what is now healthy ecosystem in the French Creek/Patrick Butte highland will be badly fragmented; the area now supports wolverine, moose, rare plants, bear, elk, wolf, mountain goats, and many other wild animals. Several streams in the area support salmon, steelhead, bull and rainbow trout. French Creek itself is a popular and well known Wild & Scenic River candidate.

Within five years, ten timber sales will have gutted the French Creek roadless area. There is no time to waste in fighting for the protection of one of the most biologically diverse roadless areas in the northern Rockies. Six Forest Service Environmental Impact Statements are aimed at massive logging projects in the French Creek roadless area in 1994 alone! These behind-the-scenes Environmental Impact Statements are aimed at producing sawlogs at any cost rather than at establishing an ecosystem approach to land management. Five of the six sales—Freight Landing, Fourmile, Hazard, Jenkins, Lower Elkhorn—have already passed the public review and comment period and are currently waiting for the Record of Decision. The sixth proposed sale for this year is called French Creek and there is still time to comment. Ask the USFS to protect biological diversity, wildlife habitat, old growth forests and hiking trails threatened by the proposed logging. Demand a comprehensive ecosystem study of the entire roadless area before timber sales fragment the landscape. The French Creek/Patrick Butte roadless area is right next to Cove/Mallard, so if you're coming to Cove/Mallard, stop at the Payette National Forest on the way and tell Supervisor Dave Alexander what you think of his forest management style.

Write immediately to: Dave Alexander, Payette Forest Supervisor, POB 1026, McCall, Idaho 83340. For more information contact Mike Medberry at 208/726-3461.

Wolf killed in Maine

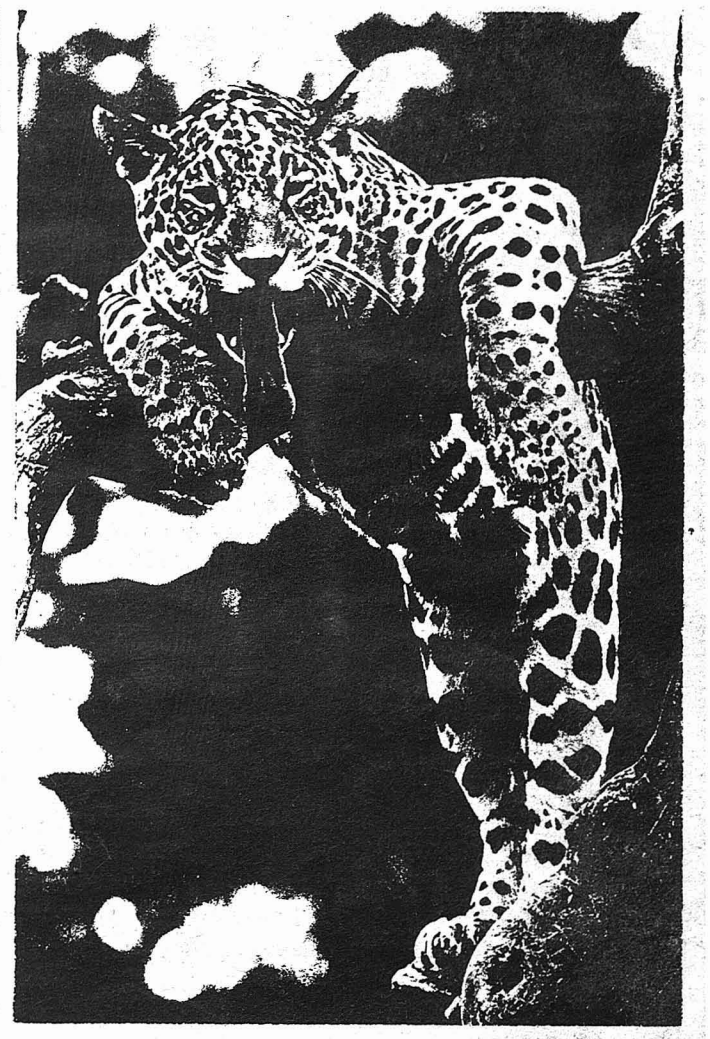
By Web Bryant, USA TODAY

On August 31, 1993, in the remote woods of northern Maine, a "wolf-like" animal was shot by a bear hunter. The victim was a black female weighing around 75 pounds. The body was recovered by game wardens. It was then sent to Oregon for DNA tests to determine whether it was a hybrid or a pure wolf. There was never any doubt that it wasn't a coyote, which remain subjected to an open hunting season.

It took six months, but the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has just released their findings. These findings confirm that the animal killed was a pure wolf with no signs of having been in captivity and escaped. Naturally there is great excitement that this will begin to show that wolves from Canada may be returning to Maine. Wolves were extirpated in Maine at the end of the last century.

The USFWS has refused to develop a wolf reintroduction plan for the last 15+ years. The presence of an endangered species in Maine's rapidly deteriorating North Woods will hopefully continue efforts critical for the survival and restoration of this region.

Suit Filed to Protect Jaguars



BY GREATER GILA BIODIVERSITY PROJECT

The Greater Gila Biodiversity Project and the Southwest Center for Biological Diversity filed suit on April 5, 1994 in US District Court (Phoenix) against the US Fish and Wildlife Service for failure to make a finding as to whether the jaguar warrants listing under the Endangered Species Act. The Fish and Wildlife Service was required to have made this decision by August, 1993.

The jaguar is currently listed as endangered south of the US/Mexico border but is not protected in the United States, despite proof that jaguars still occur and are extremely endangered in the United States. They have been seen in southern Arizona as recently as 1993. Jaguars were virtually eliminated from the southwest by ranchers and a government sponsored predator control campaign by the 1960's. Without Endangered Species Act protection, jaguars will never be able to fully re-establish themselves in the United States. A breeding jaguar in southern Arizona was killed by a rancher in 1986.

Jaguars should have been proposed as an endangered species with critical habitat in August of 1993. Plaintiffs in the suit against Fish and Wildlife expect that a final rule to protect the jaguar will include a large portion of the Greater Gila Ecosystem in southeast Arizona and southwest New Mexico as critical habitat. The Greater Gila Ecosystem is the largest intact wilderness complex left in the southwest but it must have large predators to be complete.

The jaguar was first listed as an endangered species south of the Mexican border under the Endangered species Conservation Act (ESCA) of 1969. Through a Fish and Wildlife Service "oversight," the jaguar was not protected in the United States when ESCA was replaced by the Endangered Species Act. The Fish and Wildlife Service, therefore, promised to "take action as quickly as possible" to fix the error. They did indeed propose to list the jaguar in its US range in 1980, but had to withdraw the proposal in 1982 because they had dragged their feet too long. Despite its purported concern and self-admitted errors, the Fish and Wildlife Service let another ten years go by without any further effort to protect the jaguar in the United States. They were finally forced to reconsider listing in 1992 because of a petition filed by LifeNet, a New Mexico-based group, and the American Southwest Sierra Institute. Unbelievably, the Service is dragging its feet once again. They have failed to act upon the petition and are now being sued to do so. Contact Greater Gila Biodiversity Project, PO Box 742, Silver City, NM 88062, phone (505) 538-0961, fax (505) 538-3540.

Mass Activists Take Action Against Mitsubishi

BY ANDY BUCKLEY

Mitsubishi is a huge multinational giant of interwoven companies that span the globe. Mitsubishi-owned companies are currently involved in rainforest destruction in Brazil, Bolivia, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines, as well as destruction of temperate and boreal forests in Canada and Siberia. Together with Hyundai, Mitsubishi is logging the habitat of the last 200 Siberian tigers remaining in the wild. Not only are the forests and wildlife being destroyed, but also the cultures that depend on them, such as the Penan of Malaysia. With these things in mind, we decided to take action.

On Saturday, February 19, environmental activists descended on two Mitsubishi auto dealerships in eastern Massachusetts to protest their unsustainable logging practices worldwide.

The first of these protests took place at Bernard Mitsubishi in Natwick. The sales staff were less than thrilled to see us arrive as we began picketing their dealership at the start of their Presidents' day weekend sale. The protest included an activist in a tiger costume (in order to draw attention to the fact that Mitsubishi is moving into the habitat of the endangered Siberian tiger), a bullhorn-toting activist proclaiming Mitsubishi's environmental atrocities, as well as a banner and various signs. As our picketing continued, drivers slowed along route 9 in order to view the spectacle we were joyously creating. We kept this routine up for a while before moving on to another Mitsubishi dealership in Watertown, where we repeated our activities.

The next day, our campaign against Mitsubishi continued. This time we set up shop in Cambridge, at Harvard Square. It was a pleasantly mild winter day and the crowds were out in force, browsing the many book stores, coffee shops and specialty stores. We hung a rather large "Boycott Mitsubishi" banner along the sidewalk, and again made use of the tiger costume. We spent the remainder of the day handing out information on Mitsubishi's destructive forest practices and answering questions of passers-by. In addition, one woman activist did free tiger face painting for children. To get involved and/or receive more information, call or write the Rainforest Action Network, 450 Sansome, Suite 700, San Francisco, CA 94111, phone (415) 398-4404.

Pele Victory

The Pele Defense Fund and Hawaii's Rainforest Action Groups have reported a major breakthrough in the struggle to protect the Puna Rainforest in Hawai'i. True Geothermal Energy Company, based in Wyoming, has finally pulled out of its 13-year attempt to explore and develop geothermal power. "The deepest pockets of Wyoming's biggest landowner and the best public relations team of the state cannot force steam out of a dry hole," said Annie Szvetecz of the O'ahu Rainforest Action Group. Local, national, and international opposition through lawsuits, lobbying, protests, and grassroots education has been the primary cause of True's economic hardship. True's development lease with landowner Campbell Estate expired over 6 months ago, but the official announcement to Governor Waihee that True was "winding down its operations" due to "marketing problems" didn't happen until early March of 1994.

It was almost five years ago when True Geothermal Energy Company first bulldozed a road and drill site. Protests all over the country have been organized since then to call attention to US rainforest destruction in an area which was previously designated as a Natural Area Reserve on the Big Island of Hawai'i. Since then the Pele Defense Fund, together with local and national environmental organizations have successfully waged a strong campaign to stop any further rainforest destruction in Wao Kele O Puna, the last expanse of lowland tropical rainforest in the US.

"When True Geothermal opened a wound in the volcanic rainforest to drill into Pele, we conducted rituals to heal that wound. The Pele Defense Fund would like to thank all of the organizations and individuals who share in this victory for Hawaiian rights and native rainforests," said Palikapu Dedman, president of the Pele Defense Fund. Pele is the Hawaiian volcano goddess that has the distinction of being worshipped and/or respected by a large portion of Hawaiian residents. Pele's power is still strong.

Campbell Estate, illegal landowner of Wao Kele O Puna, quickly mobilized a damage-control media blitz to discredit this environmental victory. The estate claims that it is at the bargaining table with a new "developer with substantial experience in geothermal." Campbell claims that all of True's development permits would transfer over to a new developer. Any potential new developer would inherit 10 years of litigation, Hawaiian rights issues, and national outrage over rainforest destruction in the US. This rainforest is not protected yet, so stay tuned for a renewed campaign to stop geothermal development and reinstate protected status for Wao Kele O Puna.

The Bombing Story
Part 2: FBI Lies

By Judi Bari

Editors' note: In May of 1990, Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney were on their way to a Redwood Summer organizing meeting when a bomb exploded in Bari's car in Oakland, CA. Although it was clear that the bombing was an attempt on their lives, the Oakland Police and the FBI immediately arrested the two, accusing them of transporting the bomb. Charges were never filed, but neither the OPD nor the FBI ever investigated the bombing as an assassination attempt. Bari and Cherney have since filed a civil rights lawsuit against both agencies. All quotes of police officers are taken from the officers' sworn depositions. This is part two of a three-part story. Part three will appear in the next issue.

Normally, a car bombing in Oakland would fall under the jurisdiction of the BATF, not the FBI. So it was uncanny how fast the FBI showed up when the bomb went off in my car. The first agent arrived literally within minutes, and soon there were 12-15 agents from the FBI Terrorist Squad on the scene.

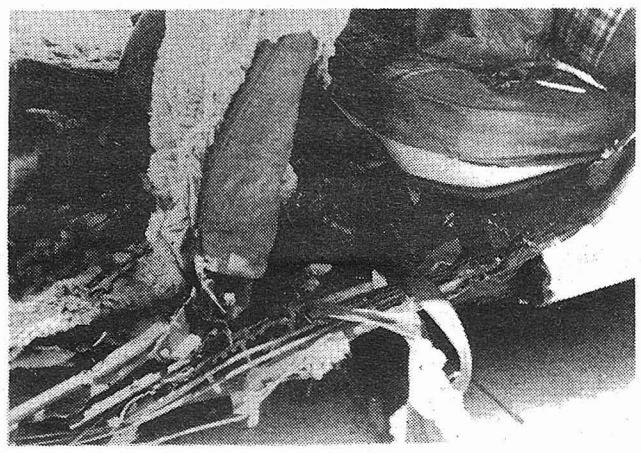
The FBI told the Oakland Police that they were going to "assist" in this case, and they quickly briefed Oakland on me, Darryl, and Earth First! "They said that these were the type of people who would be involved in carrying a bomb," said Oakland Police Sergeant. Sitterud in his sworn deposition. "They told us that these people, in fact, qualified as terrorists." Ten minutes after he arrived on the scene, based on the information he got from the FBI, Sgt. Sitterud made an entry in his police log describing Darryl and me as "Earth First! leaders suspected of Santa Cruz power pole sabotage, linked with federal case of attempted destruction of nuclear power plant lines in Arizona."

Meanwhile, Special Agent Frank Doyle, 20-year veteran bomb expert with the (aptly named) FBI Terrorist Squad, had taken over examining my car. The damage was obvious. A hole was blown in the driver's seat—you could see right through to the street below—and the car frame was buckled directly under it. When they unbolted the front seat and removed it from the car, there was a 2'x4' blast hole in the floor, with the metal curled back from an obvious epicenter under the driver's seat (see police photos). Any honest observer would have concluded that a bomb had been hidden under my seat, and that this was a case of attempted murder.

But Doyle had other ideas. In defiance of all the evidence, he claimed that the bomb was located on the back seat floorboard; therefore, Darryl and I were knowingly carrying it, and it was our bomb. That was all the Oakland Police needed to hear. The OPD has a long history, dating back at least to the Black Panthers, of fronting for the FBI in COINTELPRO operations. So, with a wink and a nod, they ignored the evidence in front of their noses and went along with the FBI's incredible lie. Three hours after the bombing, I was placed under arrest while still in surgery, charged with transporting the bomb that had been used to try to kill me. Darryl was arrested 12 hours later.

The evening of the bombing, the FBI held a briefing meeting for the Oakland Police. They said that Earth First! was a domestic terrorist group who a year ago started downing power lines in Arizona, and now were on their way to California to do it again. They said Darryl and I were the prime suspects in the downing of the Santa Cruz power lines, and that I was also suspected in a recent pipe bombing at the Louisiana-Pacific sawmill in Cloverdale, near where I lived. They also said that an undercover informant who was "close to the leadership of Earth First!" had told them that "the heavies from up north" were on their way to Santa Cruz for some kind of "action." Darryl and I were indeed on our way to Santa Cruz, but the "action" was a concert, not a bomb.

After the briefing, Oakland Police Sgt. Chenault wrote an affadavit for a search warrant on Darryl's and my houses. Chenault has testified that the FBI agents literally dictated while he typed. The affadavit says, "[I] viewed the white Subaru along with agents from the FBI. [I] was advised by these agents that the bomb device was on the floorboard behind the driver's seat when it detonated." "[I] believe that Bari and Cherney are members of a violent terrorist group involved in the manufacture and placing of explosive devices. [I] believe that Bari and Cherney were transporting an explosive device in their vehicle when it exploded."



Oakland Police photo taken immediately after the bombing shows the front seat blown clear through, and the back seat intact.

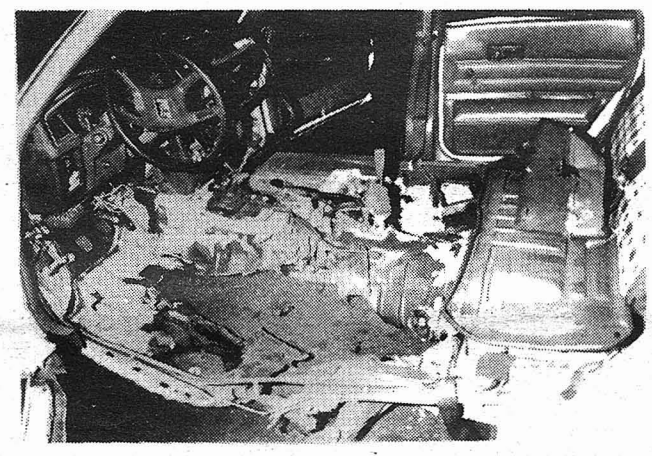
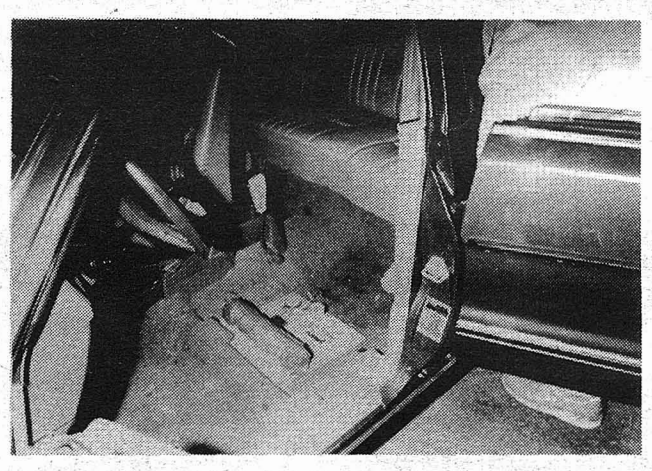


Photo clearly shows the epicenter of the explosion to be under the driver's seat. *Just imagine sitting on the front seat—as Judi Bari was—when the bomb went off.*



This photo and the next show the FBI determining the placement of the bomb in the car. In this photo, a mock-up of the bomb has been placed under the driver's seat in an intact Suburu.

Press Smear

The media had a field day with this news, as the FBI and Oakland Police provided them with the images they needed to make it look like they had busted up a ring of terrorists. They raided the Seeds of Peace House without a warrant, turned the place upside down in a fruitless search, and led the occupants away in handcuffs, only to release them a few hours later, after the reporters and cameras had gone home. TV news that night included not only the raid, but an interview with a neighbor who said there were strange goings-on in that house, with lights on at all hours. When Seeds of Peace responded that they were a non-violent collective, cooking food for mass non-violent actions, the neighbor replied, "I don't know what they're cooking over there. It doesn't smell like food. Maybe PCP."

Another image shown over and over on the TV news was the search of Darryl's van. Of course the police found nothing, but they sure put on a good show. They picked out a "suspicious" box of tapes of Darryl's incendiary music, cordoned off the block, and blew it up in front of the TV cameras, supposedly to see if it contained a bomb. "No additional explosives were found," reported the TV, as if explosives had been found in the first place.

The standard bail for the charges against us was $12,000. Not only was this too easy to raise, but it was clearly not enough for the dangerous criminals they made us out to be. So, circumventing the normal procedures, the Oakland Police went straight to the judge, without even a lawyer there to represent us. Darryl and I were both declared a flight risk and a danger to the public, even though I was unconscious in the hospital with my leg in traction and my pelvis broken in 10 places. Our bail was raised to $100,000 each, spawning a new round of headlines and giving credence to the charge of terrorism.

The news quickly went national, with newspapers across the country screaming about Earth First!ers carrying bombs. It was the only time we ever made the front page of the New York Times. The press ate up the police lies with a big spoon, instantly convicting us in their stories. "Two members of the radical environmental group Earth First! were injured Thursday by their own pipe bomb," began the lead article in the San Jose Mercury News. "Earth First! leaders hurt in a pipe bomb explosion yesterday have no one but themselves to blame for their injuries," smirked the blow-dried talking heads on the TV news. And I don't know how many of us are really aware of how much this hurt Earth First!'s image on a national scale. Even today, particularly in places where there is no active EF! movement, bombs and tree spikes are the only things many people know about us.

The Lord's Avenger

Despite the image they were able to project in the press, the FBI must have known they would have a hard time pinning anything on us. The searches of our houses had turned up no explosives, no weapons, and no incriminating items. And, as the FBI knew perfectly well, the damage to my car proved that the bomb had been hidden from my sight.

Also, the Earth First!ers were just not acting like terrorists. Rather than hiding out, 200 of them gathered in the lobby of the FBI building, singing, chanting, hugging and crying, and refusing to leave until Darryl was released from jail. Karen Pickett, Pam Davis, Kelpie Wilson and others came across as strong and credible spokespeople, citing our commitment to non-violence, holding up the death threats we had

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This photo shows FBI bomb expert David Williams holding the bomb mock-up in the blown-up car, in a position corresponding to its placement under the driver's seat. The position matches the epicenter of the explosion.

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received, and calling for a non-violent response to the terror inflicted on us. These views were getting some press attention, and if we managed to convince the public of our innocence, the FBI would need a good backup story. Because if we didn't bomb ourselves, there were only two other suspects—timber and the FBI.

One week after the bombing, a strange anonymous letter arrived at the Santa Rosa Press Democrat, addressed to top timber reporter Mike Geniella. "I built with these hands the bomb that I placed in the car of Judi Bari," it began. "Doubt me not, for I will tell you the design and materials such as only I will know." In flowery, biblical language, the letter went on to describe my participation in an abortion clinic defense several years earlier ("I saw Satan's flames shoot forth from her mouth, her eyes and ears..."), and cite my pro-abortion stance, as well as my "paganism" and defense of the forest, as reasons to kill me. The letter writer then described in exact detail not only the bomb in my car, but also the bomb at the Cloverdale sawmill, which the FBI had already tried to pin on me, taking credit for both. The letter was signed, "The Lord's Avenger."

The Lord's Avenger letter was chilling, and at the time, it even fooled me. But in retrospect, it was clearly a fake, meant to lead us off the trail. The Lord's Avenger claimed that he put the bomb in my car while I was in a meeting in Willits, up in the timber region, two days before the bomb went off. But the bomb in my car had a 12-hour timer, so it could not have been placed anywhere but Oakland or Berkeley, where I stayed the night before it exploded.

The Lord's Avenger letter had several functions. It provided a plausible lone assassin not connected to timber or FBI. It threw a veil of confusion over the motives for the bombing. And it removed the investigation from Oakland, where the bomb was actually placed, to Mendocino County, where there are many crazy people to use as suspects. Masterfully, the FBI managed to simultaneously promote the letter as a key piece of evidence, while continuing their claim that Darryl and I bombed ourselves. Since we were the only suspects, they reasoned, the Lord's Avenger must be our accomplice. So, with great fanfare, they raided my house a second time, this time looking for "typewriter exemplars" to match the Lord's Avenger letter, and never mentioning that nothing they found even vaguely matched.

No Evidence, No Charges

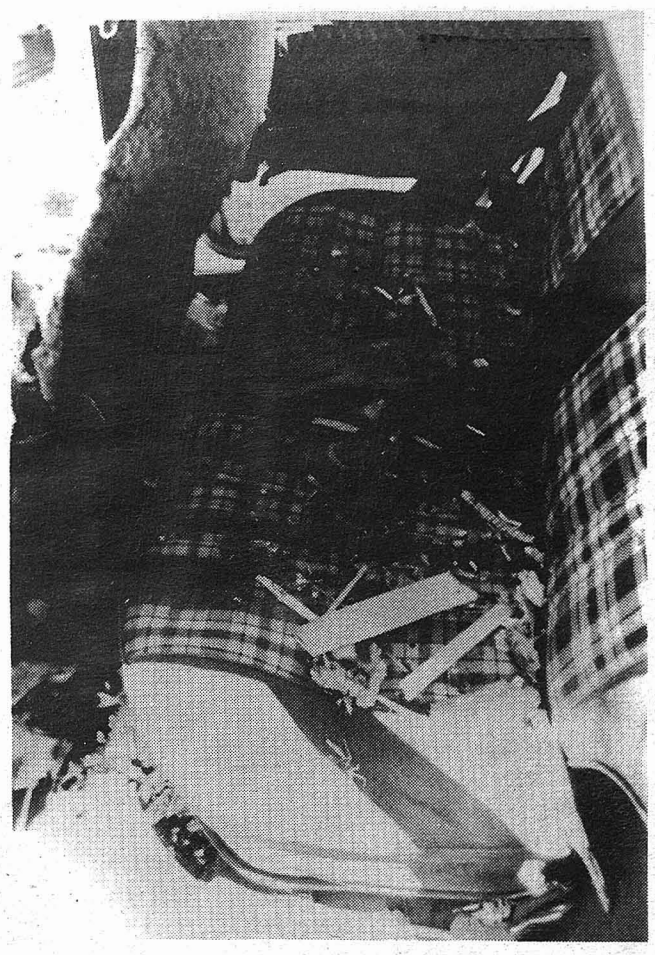
Since we were declared the only suspects, the FBI and police did not even attempt to investigate the death threats, fake press releases, or any other evidence of timber industry violence. Their entire investigation for the first eight weeks consisted of sending the remains of the bomb in my car, the Cloverdale bomb, and the Lord's Avenger letter to the FBI lab for analysis. They also sent in 111 items seized from our houses, including tools, solder, nails, glue, etc., to try and match them to the bomb.

But when the lab analysis came back, the FBI had problems. The solder, tape, glue, etc., from the Cloverdale bomb and the bomb in my car matched exactly, and the two bombs matched the Lord's Avenger's description. But the solder, tape, glue, etc. seized from our houses did not match the bomb. Further, it was determined that the bomb in my car was an anti-personnel bomb, wrapped with nails for shrapnel effect. It also included a motion device, hooked up to the 12-hour timer. In other words, the bomb was a booby trap, triggered by the motion of my car, and quite unlikely to be knowingly carried under anyone's car seat.

The lab analysis of the hole in the floor of my car also showed that the epicenter of the blast was under the driver's seat, not behind it. And, to top it all off, they found that a blue towel had been placed over the bomb, making it even more unlikely that we would have seen it. The towel did not match other blue towels seized from my house.

The FBI was hard put to keep the case going against us. But they managed to find a straw to cling to for a few more weeks. Of all the 111 items seized, two nails allegedly had the same tool markings as some of the nails in the bomb. By this it could be determined that they were made on the same machine. But many hundreds of thousands of nails a day are made on each machine. The supplier, Pacific Steel, told the FBI that the nails come in 50-lb. boxes from Saudi Arabia, and are distributed at over 200 outlets on the north coast. So, logically, it would be concluded that the nails were too common to compare.

Side view of the car clearly shows that the bomb damage is under the driver's seat, not the back seat floorboard. Notice the small American flag stuck on the dashboard. This was done while the car was in police custody.



Oakland Police photo shows the back seat completely intact immediately after the bombing.

But logic never stops the FBI. They just make up new lies. This time, according to an Oakland Police affidavit, an FBI bomb expert told them that the nails matched in a batch of 200 to 1000. Apparently they didn't even try to make this argument in court, but they used it in the press for several weeks to counter emerging proof of our innocence, and they used it as part of the justification for the second raid on my house.

The Oakland Police, who were technically responsible for the arrest, went to court three times in the eight weeks following the bombing to try to get the district attorney to bring charges against Darryl and me. But each time they could produce no real evidence against us. Finally, after the third try, the DA declined to press charges. Still we were not exonerated. The FBI and Oakland Police, although chastened by their inability to charge us with the crime, continued to say that we were the only suspects. Dumb enough to carry a live anti-personnel bomb under my car seat, but apparently too clever to catch.

Contributions are needed to help with the expenses of the Civil Rights lawsuit against the FBI and OPD. Checks should be made out to Redwood Summer Justice Project, and sent to PO Box 14720, Santa Rosa, CA 95402. Please indicate if you need your contribution to be tax deductible. Thank you.

BOMB SCHOOL

Two weeks before the bomb exploded in my car in May 1990, Oakland Police Sergeant Myron Hanson attended an FBI training class on bombings, held at the College of the Redwoods in Eureka, in the heart of the redwood region. The instructor for this course was none other than Frank Doyle Jr., the FBI Terrorist Squad bomb expert who showed up at the scene of the car-bombing in Oakland, directed the police's examination of the bomb damage to my car, and came up with the lie about the bomb being located on the back seat floorboard where we would have seen it.

So when Sgt. Hanson was assigned to inspect my car at the scene of the bombing, he quickly deferred to the expertise of his instructor, agent Doyle. During the week-long bomb school, which was open to law enforcement only, the class had studied car-bomb pipe bombings. According to Sgt. Hanson's sworn testimony, agent Doyle told the class that when people bomb other people's cars, they hardly ever put the bomb inside the passenger compartment, because of the supposed difficulty of breaking into a locked car. Instead they strap the bomb to the bottom of the car or hide it in the engine compartment. Sgt. Hanson testified that one of the reasons he believed that the bomb in my car belonged to us was because it had been placed in the passenger compartment.

Another kind of pipe bomb that Sgt. Hanson studied in FBI bomb school was an incendiary bomb, in which the pipe is strapped to a gasoline can to start a fire. This is exactly the same kind of bomb that was found partially exploded at the Cloverdale L-P mill in my area in May 1990. This bomb turned out to have the same solder, tape, glue and other components as the bomb in my car, and the FBI tried to blame it on us too. By an incredible coincidence, the Cloverdale bomb was set off during the exact same week as bomb school was held. Sgt. Hanson did not tell us whether the class took any field trips.

Tree-Top Sitters

BY JILL REDWOOD

The mountain plum pine, or Podocarp, is the only remaining pine species of the cool temperate rainforest. Part of the longest undisturbed plant community in Victoria, Australia, the Podocarp lives to well over 500 years old, and possibly as long as 1000 years. Concerned residents of East Gippsland conducted blockades in February to protect a remnant stand of Podocarp which has survived for thousands of years on the Errinundra Plateau. What follows is an account of one of the actions, from the Potoroo Review.

A Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DNRC) road crew had been discovered pushing bulldozers into the heart of an old growth/ rainforest catchment, on the eastern edge of the Errinundra Plateau. This was in readiness for clearfelling part of the last untouched forest in the Queensborough River headwaters. So, a blockade was planned that would have the police scratching their heads.

A team of dedicated forest defenders positioned two tree platforms 30 metres above the ground, during a weekend in early February. These platforms were the size of large doors. A complex web of steel rope and cable radiated out 80-90 metres from the platforms to be fixed to trees in the vicinity. This made the felling of trees extremely dangerous for the arboreal blockaders. They were well stocked with food, bedding, tarps, a stove and a library of good books.

However, the wheels of destruction had to continue. A team of 25 police were called in to clear the blockade and allow the machines right of way. They carried out a practice run on another blockade, 500 meters off, arresting one person and quickly dismantling the camp and tripod barricade which had stood for almost a month.

The dismantling of the tree platform site took a little longer. The tactic was to clear all support people from the area and leave the tree sitters, Minna and Wren, alone with 25 police and umpteen DCNR road crew. People were threatened with arrest for merely being on the site so were forced to leave. After lengthy negotiations, Anthony stayed on as the police liason person. Rob had also hidden himself away in the bush to witness police operations. Police from Search and Rescue climbed several trees and cut cables. These were left to lay on the ground and could have easily been snagged and pulled by the dozers working around them. The police believed that two women could be easily scared into coming down thus allowing the dozers to continue. Relentless intimidation was allowed but to no avail. Police at one stage pulled on a cable to rock the platforms and terrorize the women. That not working, trees were felled to within 10 metres of the tree sitters in controvention of the Health and Safety Act for forest operations. The bulldozer began to nudge a tree connected to the platform's cable. Minna and Wren were screaming, fearful their platforms and themselves would be ripped from the trees and fall 30 metres to the ground. The police and dozer driver took no heed of either the women's panic or Anthony telling them how dangerous the situation was. As a last ditch effort, Anthony raced in between the dozer and the tree but was quickly arrested and marched from the scene. Rob was still nearby and decided to let the police know their actions were being witnessed.

By the end of the day, 6 people had been arrested, but the women still refused to come down.

Police stayed at the site until after dark waiting for the women. Only after much anguished deliberation did the two descend their trees once the police had gone.

Early the next morning, the DCNR dozers destroyed the trees, platforms and gear by pushing them into the rainforest creek down the hill. It was a blatant breach of the Code of Forest Practices which the DCNR flaunt as their bible for logging operations. When they can't abide by their own regulations, what must the contractors get away with? (we all know the answer to that one.)

We can only be humbled by the stamina, tenacity and commitment of these forest guardians, and hope their non-violent protest will force the government to reassess its blind push to plunder these last relics of the ice age forests.

KILL THEM SO THEY DON'T DIE

It was recently revealed that large-scale commercial fishing is being conducted on the lakes of the Kurgalzhinsky Nature Reserve in Kazakhstan. The Ministry of Ecology and Bioresources gave permission for this activity, supposedly because of the hard winter and falling water levels. Neither the ministry nor the regional administration did an environmental impact assessment (which is ridiculous anyway since the area is legally protected from any and all anthropogenic disturbance) or directed any attention to ecological consequences.

The fishing is done in an atrocious manner; two tractors on either shore drag a net across the whole lake. Specialists assert that such an activity will exert a more devastating effect on the lake than any severe winter and ice could ever exert. The aquatic ecosystems are being thrown off-balance. Two lakes have been thus devastated and a third is waiting. This activity is an appalling breach of the foundation of land conservation in the country. Not only are local laws broken, but also international. The Kurgalzhinsky Nature Reserve is an international wetlands and migratory nesting reserve of international importance. It houses the world's most northern colony of flamingos and many other exotic and endangered birds. The Tenghiz Lake, which is located in the reserve, is the twelfth largest lake in the former Soviet Union.

The precedent that this activity sets is dangerous considering the numbers waiting to repeat such acts for profit in the country. If the Ministry of Ecology relates to the environment in this fashion, who will be an advocate for the Earth?

INDIANS BLOCK ROADS TO PREVENT INVASION

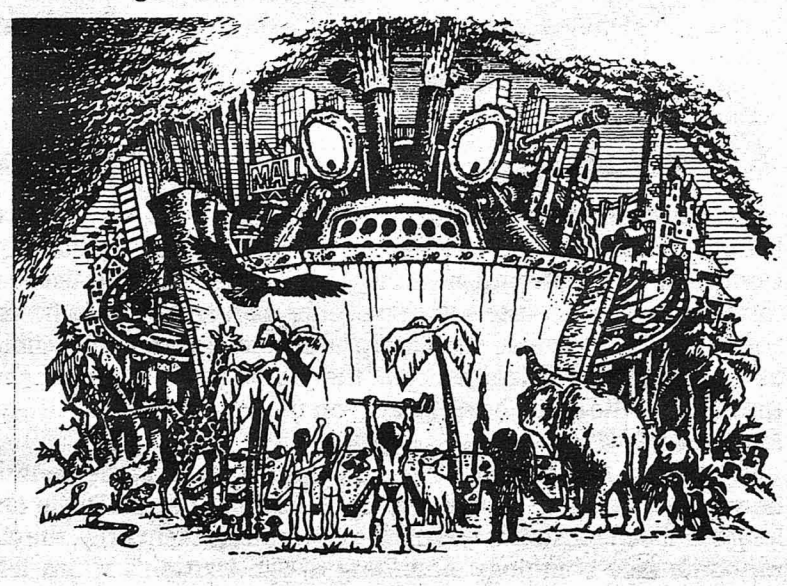
For years the Makuxi, Wapixana, Taurepang, and Ingarik'o Indians who live in the Brazilian state of Roraima, located on the border with Guyana, have been requesting the government to remove miners from their lands. They never got any reply to their requests. On March 14, 600 Indians blocked two roads leading to the Mau', Contigo, and Quino^ rivers to prevent the transportation of food and fuel to gold mines. They say they want to draw attention to the problem caused by the presence of miners in their lands. The rivers are located in the Raposa/Serra do Sol Indian Area.

The Indians are only allowing the Federal Police, FUNAI, and officials of health agencies to enter the area. Civil and military policemen are not allowed to cross the barriers, as they have been accused of arresting, beating, and torturing Indians by order of invaders of Indian lands; last year, a Makuxi was murdered by a civil policemen inside a police station.

The Raposa/Serra do Sol Indian Area has been invaded by over 1,000 miners. According to the Indian Council of Roraima (CIR), the invaders have destroyed river banks and polluted rivers, have set up brothels, have increased the rate of diseases, and are trading alcoholic beverages in the Indian territory. The Council, which is made up of representatives of all Indian peoples of the state of Roraima, says that the blockade is a means to pressure the government to remove the miners from the Raposa/Serra do Sol Area and to demarcate it.

A corporal of the Military Police tried to pass beyond the blockade with a truckload of diesel oil for the miners, but was prevented from doing so by the Indians. According to CIR, troops of military policemen may be mobilized at any moment to remove the blockade.

-CIR



Antarctic Krill Populations Crash

BY TIM JOHNSON

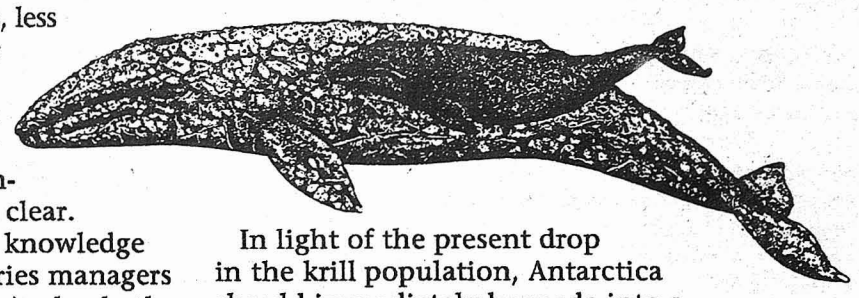
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration researchers, returning from a two month survey of the Antarctic, have discovered that krill populations have dropped by eighty percent. The researchers had no explanation for the drop.

Krill are the key to the southern oceanic food web. The relative simplicity of the Antarctic food chain makes it unique; krill feed on the photosynthetic phytoplankton and in turn form the single most important food item for the large carnivores of the Antarctic region (seals, fish, squid, whales, seabirds). With such simplicity, however, comes inherent instability; take away the krill and the entire ecosystem will be destroyed.

Small, shrimp-like crustaceans, krill occur in dense swarms of a billion animals or more, but aren't uniformly distributed over large areas. Rather, populations are located in discrete patches separated by huge distances. Unfortunately, this patchy distribution makes them extremely easy to harvest. The removal of whole swarms of the animals can lead to drastically increased competition and foraging distance for the Antarctic's higher vertebrates.

Krill is harvested for human and livestock consumption by Russia, Japan, Chile, Poland, Korea, and Spain. According to principal researcher Roger Hewitt, "...last year's catches in the southwest Atlantic area overall were at safe levels, less than one-fifth of the [Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources] quota of 1.5 million metric tons."

Whether this represents a "sustainable" harvest, however, is not at all clear. The present quotas are based upon knowledge of temperate fisheries (which fisheries managers have had great success in collapsing); clearly the extrapolation to Antarctic krill is erroneous, as the waters are much colder and biological processes tend to happen more slowly. Furthermore, there is a complete absence of reliable stock estimates for krill, as well as a very poor understanding of the organism's life history. It is generally agreed that krill live longer than two years and may live six to eight years or more. Thus it may take many years for the effects of overfishing to manifest themselves. It is possible that what is now being seen is the effects of a decade of overfishing.



In light of the present drop in the krill population, Antarctica should immediately be made into a World Park (an idea whose momentum was lost with the signing of the mineral rights treaty in September 1991) and a permanent ban on fishing put in place.

BANGLADESH PLASTICS BAN THREATENED

On October 11, 1992 the Government of Bangladesh announced the prohibition of the manufacture of plastic bags for use in the country, to go in effect on January 18, 1994. This ban is now in jeopardy.

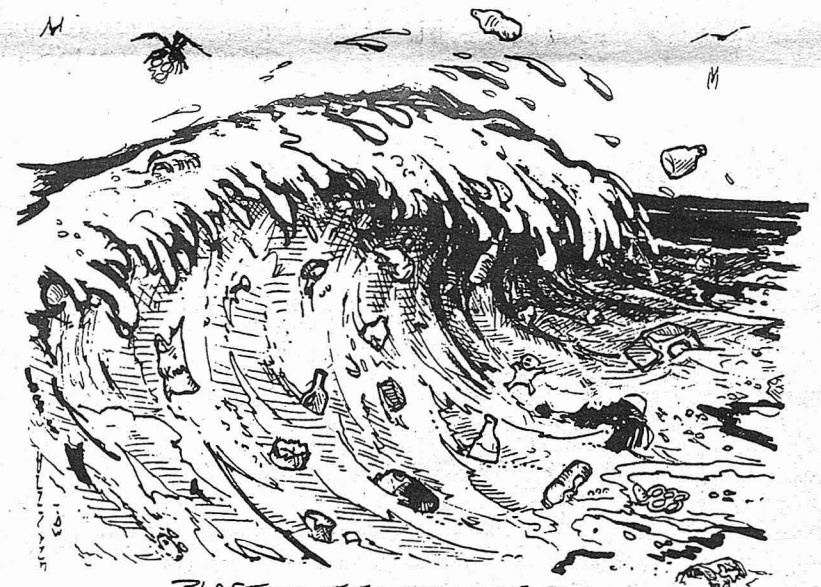
Plastic bags were introduced in Bangladesh in recent years and have spread like locusts. The bags are piling up in the streets and fields, clogging water routes and blocking drainage, being eaten by livestock, and replacing environmentally preferable jute bags. UBINIG (Policy Research for Development Alternative), and other environmental organizations in Bangladesh have been campaigning against plastic bags and welcomed the government's positive step forward.

Immediately after the announcement, however, the plastics industry began pressuring the government to cancel the ban. On December 8, 1993, the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) held a seminar of speakers opposed to the ban. Claiming that disposable plastic bags are not a major environmental problem in Bangladesh and calling the government's ban "whimsical", they urged the government to withdraw the ban.

The DCCI claims that the continued use of plastic bags in the U.S.A. justifies their continued also in Bangladesh. This example is especially ironic considering that the U.S.A. exports nearly 1 million pounds of plastic waste a day—primarily to less-industrialized countries in Asia—to escape the environmental problems associated with plastic waste disposal in its own country.

On January 13, 1994, the government of Bangladesh acquiesced to industry pressure and announced the ban would be delayed and reviewed.

People's organizations and environmental groups in Bangladesh are urgently asking friends around the world to help them counter the industry support for canceling the ban on disposable plastic shopping bags.



PLASTICS: THE WAVE OF THE FUTURE.

Please write to the Bangladesh government and include the following points:

* Commend the government for their foresight and leadership in adopting the ban.

* The only solution to the problems posed by plastic is to avoid its production and use, because plastic cannot be safely buried or burned and plastic recycling has many environmental, technical, and economic problems.

* Citizens and consumer groups in many countries are calling for prohibitions on plastic, especially disposable plastic like shopping bags and styrofoam.

* Industrialized countries must also solve their plastic waste problems, not export them! Prohibiting waste imports not only protects the importing country's environment, but also encourages industrialized countries to develop clean safe products and industries.

Please write a letter of support for the ban on plastic bags, and encourage it be strengthened, to the following government officials:

* Honorable Begum Khaleda Zia, Prime Minister of Bangladesh * Honorable Akber Hossain, Minister of Environment * Honorable Zahiruddin Khan, Minister of Industries

Address for all: Government of Bangladesh, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Also, UBINIG would appreciate seeing copies of your letters and any news of plastic prohibitions or campaigns against plastic in your country: UBINIG, 5/3 Barabo Mahanpur, Ring Road, Shaymoli, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh. Thanks.

-UBINIG

Russians Take Action for Nature Reserve

On March 16, 20 activists from three Russian groups—Rainbow Keepers, ECODEFENSE! and Radical Protection for Forests—took action in Moscow against a proposed military exercise in the Tigrovayaka Balka nature reserve in Tadjikistan.

Some of the activists blockaded the gate to the General Staff of Russian Armed Forces by handcuffing themselves to a gate while others chanted "No Military Games!" The Military Guard, after an hour, was able to remove two activists after sawing through the handcuffs. A third activist remained for another half hour using only their hands.

The Tigrovayaka Balka reserve is the last remaining wild and unpopulated piece of nature for thousands of miles in the area. Unique Tugai forests that contain more than 25 species of animals listed in the IUCN Red Data Book are found within the reserve. Species such as the Bukhara deer and the Amu Darya Shovelhead sturgeon are found nowhere else, along with peregrine falcons, asian dzaks, central asian otters, anatolian leopards and many other endangered plants and animals.

The military exercises are a demonstration of power on the border with Afghanistan. The manuevers are officially called to suppress opposition guerilla troops claimed to be hiding in the reserve, and will entail the bombing and burning of the reserve by tanks and heavy artillery. Furthermore, the exercise will renounce the protected status of the reserve, leaving the tattered remains to be destroyed by agricultural development, which has long been threatened by surrounding farms.

-ECODEFENSE

SOLOMON ISLANDS COULD LOSE TREES IN 8 YEARS

The Solomon Islands is logging its forests faster than they can be regrown and will exhaust its timber resources in eight years unless it slows down.

It is estimated that timber supplies on some islands will be exhausted in less than five years—in some areas less than a year.

Log exports from the islands have doubled in 2 years—from roughly 300,000 cubic meters in 1991 to nearly 600,000 cubic meters in 1993. Japan and South Korea receive 90% of the exports.

-JATAN

1994 EARTH FIRST!
ROUND RIVER RENDEZVOUS
JULY 3 - JULY 11

Come to Beautiful Katúah and Raise Some Hell

This is a postcard to all of you folks lookin' for a little something to do this summer. Why don't you come to our neck of the woods and help us raise some hell.

The cut and run big dollar days of the 1980's brought attention to the overcutting that was taking place in the West, spotted owls that were nailed to crosses, and loggers crying on television. Well, welcome to the 1990's and you will soon see that all the insatiable corporate beasts couldn't get enough and are packing their bags and heading to the Sunny South. Not to be met with open arms of Southern hospitality.

The Earth First! movement has traditionally been based in the Western United States. This year marks only the second time ever that the Round River Rendezvous has been East of the Mississippi. When looking at a map of public lands in the U.S. there is no doubt that the majority of wild areas are in the Western U.S. But look closer, we do have something worth fighting for here in these mountains.

Bickering and poo-pooing within this movement of not doing enough or of not being experienced enough is only done for the boosting of egos. Remember you weren't born on a tree-sitting platform and neither were we. There are alot of people in this movement who have been working a long time and/or have alot of experience and knowledge. We all need to be willing to learn from each other. Whether you were sitting around that campfire when Dave Foreman was using a monkeywrench for a roach clip, or whether you've been working two years behind a desk fighting one district ranger - share your knowledge and be willing to learn. If we want this movement to expand then all of our efforts as a whole will have to make sure expansion does not mean dilution. We need to do what is necessary to stop the destruction. And many hands make light work.

So come on down to the most beautiful place on Earth this summer, the okra will be ready in the garden, and we'll toast our mint juleps to industrial collapse and to the beauty and defense of our home.

Here's some more information about the Rendezvous:

THE SITE- This year's Rendezvous site is atop beautiful Whigg Meadow on the Tellico Ranger District, in the Cherokee National Forest. The area straddles the Tennessee/North Carolina state line. Whigg Meadow is a naturally occurring bald which was once used as pasture land. It is surrounded by a primarily hardwood forest containing mixed age groups of trees. The USFS maintains a pond near the meadow, which they say is a water reserve for fighting fires. The pond now functions as habitat for lotsa critters including salamanders, frogs, and waterbugs. As for camping, we will be in the mountains which down here means it will be hard to find totally flat areas to camp in, but there are plenty of gentle slopes and reasonably flat areas in the meadow and the surrounding forest. The area is home to black bear, so come prepared to hang your food. The site is approximately 5,000 feet up so it is very windy, bring some warm clothes. Also be sure to bring rain gear cause here in the mountains it rains alot in the afternoons. Workshops may be given on volunteer human extinction, a.k.a. lightening safety classes, depending on the weather that week.

The Tellico area is known for rugged mountains and wild rivers. The Tellico Ranger District is typical of National Forests in the Southeast, with clearcuts on steep slopes and too many damn roads being the main problems. Please don't be overwhelmed by the plethora of roads and clearcuts that you'll find in your trek to the site. Let the destruction fuel your passion and anger for action in defense of the forest.

PETS- Due to the fact that EF! RRR's have traditionally brought together several hundred people in the woods, this year's RRR committee requests that people please NOT bring your pets!! We will be doing everything in our power to minimize the impact to the site area, but regardless there's no getting around the fact that several hundred people will have an impact in the woods. Dogs, albeit our best friend, are not wildlife's best friend, and they will only increase the impact to the area. Those of you who ignore the previous request will be subject to the whims of the RRR committee (i.e. leashes, pet camp, pooper scooper patrol, etc.)

FIRES- Fire circles will be limited to 4 centralized fires to lessen our impact to the site. Fires will be strategically located near camping areas. Because firewood will be scarce do not plan on using an open fire as your main cooking source.

TRASH- Be like Woodsy Owl, Smoky's cuz, Pack out what you pack in. The Forest is our Mama, but she ain't gonna pick up after you. Be prepared to hike out all your trash.

ALCOHOL- At last year's Rendezvous, "to-alcohol or not-to-alcohol?" was the question. The forest is a sacred place everywhere. We ask that everyone keep this in mind and be responsible with their actions when drinking. When you're shitfaced it's alot harder to see salamanders' homes. The closest town to the site is Tellico Plains, TN. Beer is sold here, but liquor is not. The Rendezvous Committee is looking into donations from local micro-brewers, but we ain't makin' no promises. There will be a non-alcohol fire at the Rendezvous.

$MOOLA$- We will be asking for $15-25 sliding scale fee this year. This $$ pays for next year's RRR, these things ain't pulled off for free.

SHITTERS- This year we will avoid the controversy entirely over shitters. While we feel that trench toilets might be okay for some places, we want to avoid the debate over whether human wastes are welcome in the woods, or whether we should be using chemical port-o-potties. While the watersheds in between- where the chemical toilets are hauled off from to where they're treated and dumped into the river- is spared the horror of our poo poo, we are still left wondering "Do you think my turd will make it all the way to the Gulf of Mexico?" No need to ponder such deep fecology movement shit this year. It will all be hauled off-site to a permaculture set-up where it will be thoroughly composted and nurture the growth of fruit trees to help feed activists in years to come.

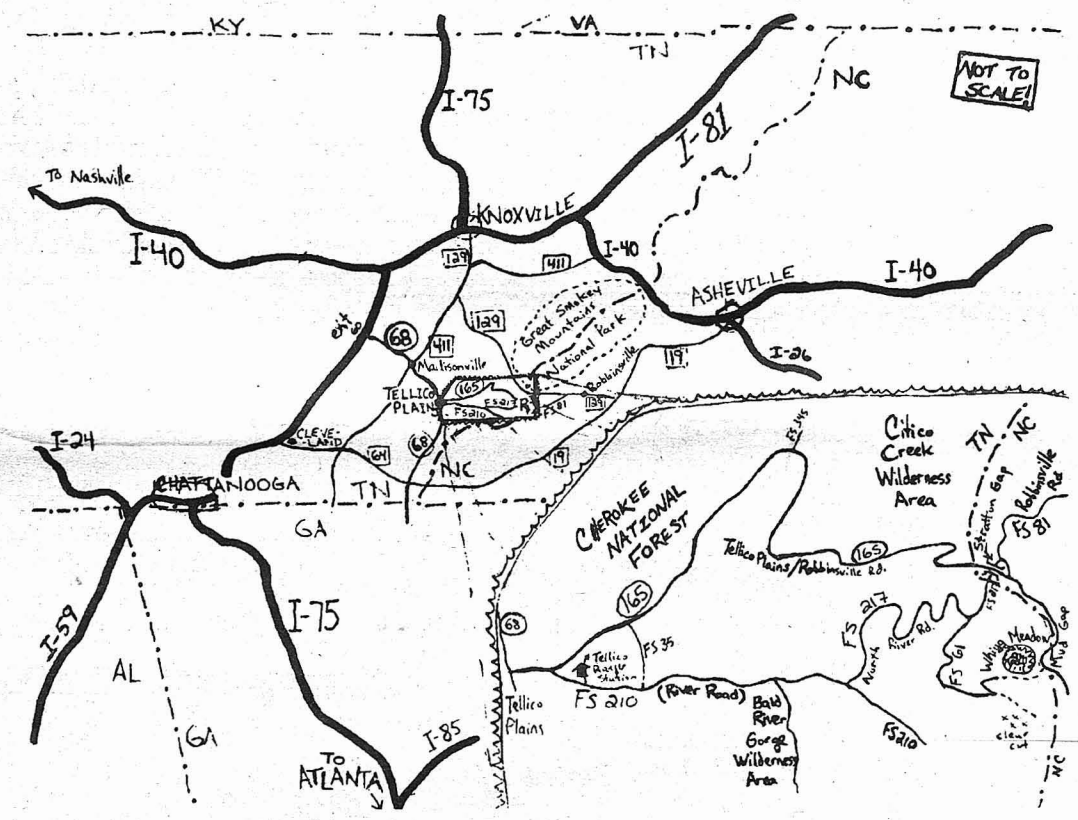
VOLUNTEERS- The Earth First! Rendezvous is a community gathering. We need the help and participation of everyone attending. Volunteers will be needed for security, fire patrol, shitter patrol, first-aid, etc. Please contact us if you are a trained medical person interested in helping out during the Rendezvous.

WATER- There are several springs on site. Our tests haven't come back yet, so bring filters, purification tablets, etc. If it is a dry summer the RRR committee will provide water.

TRANSPORTATION- Bike, foot, train, plane, or vehicular automobile: Get thee to the Rendezvous. Chattanooga, TN, Knoxville, TN, Asheville, NC and Atlanta, GA are large cities closest to the RRR site. Chattanooga being closest 3 hrs., Atlanta being furthest 6 hrs. All have good-sized airports and Greyhound bus stations. Atlanta is the closest Amtrak station. Greyhound also services Cleveland and Athens, TN which are also closer to the site. If you are going to need to be picked up from an airport, train, or bus station please contact the RRR travel aid contact John at (615) 624-3939 ASAP and definitely 3 weeks before you are to arrive.

DIRECTIONS- In the state of Tennessee from I-75 get off on exit 60 and take state highway 68 south. Go through Sweetwater, and Madisonville. If your coming from Knoxville, take 411 south and pick up 68 south in Madisonville. Take 68 into Tellico Plains. Just outside "downtown" Tellico Plains you'll pass a BP station and a Hardee's on the left. Immediately turn left onto state highway 165 east. Follow 165 through town, the road will fork, stay right on 165 following along the Tellico River. When you come to the junction of 165 and FS road 210 (approximately 5.3 mile from the 68 and 165 junction), you may go either way. FS 210 continues to follow along the Tellico River going by Bald River Falls. Stay on FS 210 for about 9.9 miles to FS 217. Turn left onto FS 217 and follow the North River upstream. This is a long gravel road (about 15 miles) which occasionally washes out but goes by many swimming holes. When you come to FS 61 turn right and follow it on up to the parking and staging area.

If you choose the paved alternative which works its way up the ridges rather than the drainage, stay left on 165 east at the juncture with FS 210. This will go on for about 20 miles until you come to a little brown sign indicating that you are at Stratton Meadows. After you cross the bridge at Stratton Meadows immediately turn left and turn left again going under the bridge. You are now on FS 217. Follow it about a mile or 2 down to the FS 61. Turn left onto FS 61 and continue up to parking.



RIDE CO-ORDINATION- The following folks have volunteered to help out with ride co-ordination across the continent.

Southwest US call Tom at (505) 538-0427

West coast US call Victoria at (310) 398-0434

Northwest US call the EF! Journal at (503) 741-9191

British Columbia call the Victoria Activist Center (604) 380-0102

Northeast US call the NFN office in Burlington, VT (802) 863-0571

Southeast US call John at (615) 624-3939

If you're taking the southern route from the west or coming up from Mexico, Austin EFlers are offering space for layover/hangover in the hill country. Talk to Hank or Robert at (512) 474-6779 to make arrangements.

HIKERS- For those of you hardy enough to consider walking to this year's RRR, we would suggest that you obtain a map of the Nantahala National Forest by writing the USFS in NC, POB 2750, Asheville, NC 28802 and sending them $3.18. Pick and choose your own route from the Appalachian Trail with your destination being Haw Knob on the state line in Graham County. Be careful about asking the locals directions to the Earth First! Rendezvous, they might think you're from the Sierra Club and they don't take to kindly to them envira-mentalists.

FOOD- Bring rope and be prepared to hang your food so that bears and other critters aren't distracted from the season's blueberries by your moonpies. Co-ops and natural foods stores in the area are: French Broad Co-op 90 Biltmore Ave. Asheville (704) 255-7650, Knoxville Community Food Co-op 937 N. Broadway Knoxville (615) 525-2069, Only One Earth 340 Frazier Ave. Chattanooga (615) 756-3466.

AUTHORITIES[sic.]- Whigg Meadow is in the Tellico Ranger District of the Cherokee National Forest, but the area surrounding the meadow is actually right on a state line (TN/NC) as well as being divided by another Ranger District and National Forest. What fun for our law enforcement friends, heh?

PERMIT?... We don't need no stinking pérmit!

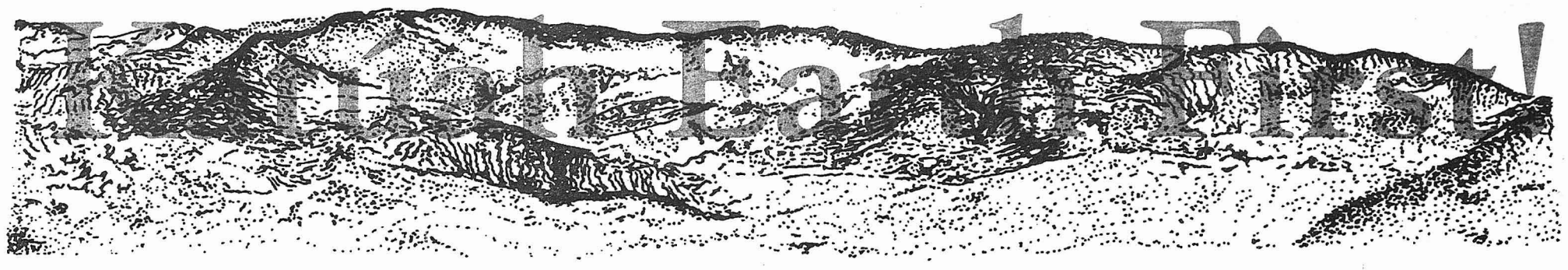
This year's Rendezvous committee has decided to once again forego the permitting process. We based this decision on the nearly unanimous input from folks we talked to. There are several reasons why we decided to do this, the greatest of which are that the Forest Service permitting process is bogus. The permit we would receive would be the same type which allows a logging operation to conduct its activities with bulldozers, skidders, chainsaws, knuckle-loaders and big trucks. These permits allow such equipment to operate in the forest with the claim that there is "No Significant Impact." Should we respect the wishes and guidelines of an agency which obviously doesn't know what the hell they're talking about?

A second reason for sidestepping the permit is that it would be necessary to post a bond. This is typically done through an insurance company and can cost in excess of $1,000. The committee does not feel that Earth Firstlers who put up their hard earned donations for this event want to see a large portion of it sucked into the pockets of some greedy insurance company who'll probably invest it is some Earth destroying development scheme.

We asked the district ranger's office if there were any endangered species known to exist in the Whigg Meadows area. The ranger present told us that he couldn't say for certain, there's never been a biological inventory of the area. The management method for this high elevation open area is to bush-hog it with tractors. The committee is planning to conduct its own biological survey of the area as this goes to press. We are writing a site plan which will address the issues of sensitive areas and how we will avoid impacts. The integrity of the Forest Service permitting process (as well as the agency as a whole) is worth questioning and in the opinion of this year's RRR committee, worth rejecting.

Kabrúah: The Bioregional Beer!
"No hops or barley here
This new brew is acorn beer!!"

For the hard-mast-aholic.
Kick back, sip back, and slip back.
Bioregional sloth is officially IN!
Acorns squashed, dried, left in a mountain stream, and fried! WE carefully squeeze the essential juices form these specially prepared nutty treats and leave then in musty, rustic root cellars for three years.



The Mists of Katúah

Rising out of northern Georgia, extending up through South Carolina, Tennessee, North Carolina, and into Virginia is the region the Cherokee called Katúah—the Blue Ridge Mountains. This Southern Appalachian Bioregion contains the highest mountains in eastern North America. Mountain balds and red spruce/Fraser fir forests crest these highest peaks. Along the mountain slopes are cove hardwood forests, ancient rock outcrops, and highland bogs. Waterfalls channel into river gorges. Together, these and the other communities of the Southern Appalachians form one of the most biologically diverse temperate forests on Earth.

Walking through remnant old-growth in the Southern Appalachians, one may find as many tree species as occur in all of Europe, with 400 year old white oaks and hemlocks. Sugar maples and Tulip poplars rise 150 feet high. Black bear, Myotis bats, and numerous songbirds nest and den in the largest cavity trees. The forest floor is rich with ferns, mosses, mushrooms, and wildflowers, such as painted trillium, ginseng, and Gray's lily. The leaf litter and creeks are home to salamander populations whose abundance and diversity is unequaled even in tropical rainforests . The largest of these are the hellbenders, which grow nearly three feet long. Under ridge rocks and boulders lie rattlesnakes and woodrats.

The Katúah Bioregion is an area of about 16,000 square miles. The region is blessed with large areas of public lands, relative to the rest of the eastern United States. The Chattahoochee, Sumter, Cherokee, Nantahala, Pisgah, and Jefferson National Forests together with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park total 3.5 million acres. Additional holdings by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), state forests and parks, and land trusts provide protection for other areas in lesser degrees.

Following the catastrophic logging frenzy around the turn of the century, the federal government began purchasing cut-over lands which form our present-day public forests. Though logging, in a limited form, has been a part of the management regime of the Southern Appalachian National Forests since their designation, most of the lands purchased were so degraded that the only management option for hundreds of thousands of acres was benign neglect: restoration.

Most of the forests in the region, however, are held privately. The timber industry and other corporations comprise a portion of these private landholders, but by far the majority are non-industrial private forest holders. Real estate ventures and development threaten to continue expansion on these private lands. Land prices escalate, and large tracts are subdivided and sold. Forest and farm inhabitants, both human and non-human are replaced with the seasonal migrations of people in automobiles. Communities and land-use patterns are forever changed and relationships with the land end up in divorce.

This is not the first time these mountains have hosted a land "ownership" crisis. The Cherokee Indians, the original inhabitants and caretakers of Katúah, experienced the genocidal brunt of the early European settlers. Along with the clearing of land and the removal of primeval forests came the removal of the Cherokee people. The 'Trail of Tears' marks the point in history when in 1838 the US government ordered the forced march of the Cherokees from Katúah to Oklahoma. Many perished along the way, but a few hold-outs hid and survived in the mountains, resisting the removal. As a result Qualla Boundary Indian Reservation was designated and the Cherokees have been forced to live in a shadow of their former home and to live a life which bids them to abandon tradition and forsake the forest.

Today we all face a crisis situation, and we need to think and act boldly to meet the ecological demands of our time. The current self-serving political and social realities are misconstrued due to a distorted worldview which values the continued dominance of the human species at any cost . To conform to these present misconceptions would only lead us further along a suicidal course. A bold new vision based on ecological reality is required instead. To correct the imbalance between the human inhabitants of these mountains and our natural habitat, and to preserve the original inhabitants-the native species- we must act.

These are several first steps that we believe need to be taken to bring us toward ecological sanity in the Katúah region:

1) All 3.5 million acres of public lands in the Southern Appalachian Mountains shall be mandated to be a regional evolutionary preserve. All inholdings need to be incorporated and the national forests be extended to the purchase boundaries to complete the evolutionary preserve area. All human use within the preserve area must conform to the demands of old-growth habitat to maintain ample numbers of all native species. A grassroots initiative will be needed to bring this issue before the federal Congress.

2) There can be no further road construction within the regional evolutionary preserve, and the demands of habitat require that we physically close and restore at least 90% of the roads currently on the public lands including all roads not absolutely essential to region-wide travel.

3) Commercial resource extraction in the evolutionary reserve area must cease. This refers particularly to commercial logging at the present time. This would not be an undue economic hardship for the region, as only 10% of the wood cut in the Southern Appalachian region comes from the areas presently in national forest. Compared to the ecological and social value of a large preserve area, the dollar value of logging is inconsequential!

4) The Southern Appalachian Evolutionary Preserve must be connected to other natural areas to form a migratory corridor extending from Florida up to Nova Scotia.

5) Restore extirpated species, such as the gray wolf, red wolf, golden eagle, and elk. Make urgent efforts to recover American chestnut, dogwood, Eastern cougar, and other critically endangered species.

6) Bring human population to a level within the ecological carrying capacity of the bioregion - a size which does not interfere with the integrity or functions of the natural life community in the Southern Appalachians. Rather than promote accelerated growth, we must work to decrease human numbers and simplify our style of living to bring our species to its proper level of influence within the region.

7) Take a leading role in efforts to end atmospheric deposition/air pollution that is destroying the Southern Appalachian forests and contributing to global warming.

8) Change our individual and social consciousness and lifestyles to harmonize more closely with the natural conditions of the Southern Appalachian bioregion.

Our vision is of an Appalachia once again including Eastern Mountain Lion, Grey Wolf, Red Wolf, Elk, Beaver, American Chestnut, and an abundance of freshwater mussels.

We must create a regional economy based on ecological agriculture, careful and ecological use of forest products, and strive to become regionally self-sufficient.

We must change our consumption-oriented lifestyle. Simplify our lives to reduce our resource requirements.

We must encourage a movement to re-establish the cultural heritage and traditional identity of the Cherokee Nation with a goal of tribal autonomy.

A CALL TO ACTION!!

In the southern Appalachians our mountains are old and so are our memories. After all, few of us have forgotten innumerable childhood strolls through our backyards and over the next hill ... into places that literally drip with life. We know the sound of a wild river as we descend from the heights ... a faintness that grows ... that steady roar announcing a river's presence: "You are entering my valley, the gorge that I made. "In these hills and hollows, all sights, smells, noises, and touchings are familiar. They are part of an old, old script that predates the human. We cannot manage it, control it, or bend it to our will; putting such delusions aside, however, we can sense it and share in it. In the southern Appalachians, we put much faith in the restless creaking of trees in the middle of the night, in hidden coves that are emblazoned with wildflowers and ferns, in disorienting fogs high in the dark spruce, and in thunderclaps that come with the afternoon's drenching rain. We celebrate difficult treks through laurel slicks and across cliff faces, gnarled old oaks that grow in stony places, deep snows and icicles, and limestone caverns that silently carry the waters of the earth.

To know these places in one's heart is, by itself, adequate justification for defending them. We in the southern Appalachians are tired of making excuses to unfeeling bureaucrats in mini-malls and office complexes - the very descendents of des Cartes and Pinchot. "If you have ears, then hear," said one Nazarene holy man. It is time to really howl!

Katúah Bioregion

the Threats to and Beauty

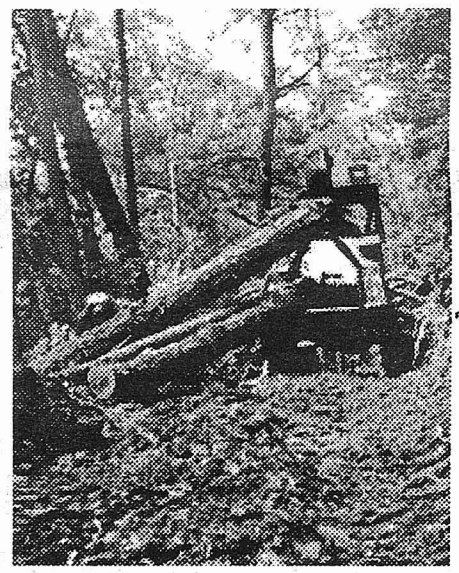
Tennessee Waterways and Forests:

The sordid history of the ongoing invasion of the chip mills began in the early '80's when the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) released a report virtually inviting multinational forest rapers to the Southeast. In 1990, four corporations requested permits for barge loading facilities for chip mills along a 12 mile stretch of the Tennessee River near Chattanooga. Public outcry forced TVA to do an Environmental Impact Statement and also look at the other impacts the mills would have in the region. Tennesseans, Alabamans, and Georgians for Environmental Responsibility (TAGER) was quickly formed to educate the public about the threat of the chip mills and to put pressure on TVA and the Army Corps of Engineers (ACE), the other government slimeball organization involved in the permit process. Due in part to public pressure, TVA denied the permits for the three chip mill facilities. This was a hard-fought victory, but unfortunately not the end of the nightmare. Champion International, our old foes, have bought land and a permit for a chip mill in West Tennessee and Parker Towing, which has a permit for whole log loading near South Pittsburg, TN, is applying for a permit to load "residual chips". Enough pressure has been placed on the ACE that they are being forced to hold a public hearing regarding Parker Towing's permit application. Once again our government bureaucracies are lending a helping hand to the un-wise mis-use groups that will soon discover when the last tree is cut and the last river poisoned that they can not eat their money.

Please write ACE and tell them you oppose the Parker Towing permit, and demand that they conduct region-wide EIS's following the precedence set by the TVA EIS. You can write the Corpse at:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Regulation Branch attn. William James
P.O. Box 1070
Nashville, TN 37202

The Church- Joyce Kilmer-Slickrock Wilderness Areas, covering 17,013 acres in the Cherokee and Nantahala National Forests, consist mainly of the Little Santeetlah and Slickrock Creek watersheds, which are joined by a common ridgeline at their headwaters. These basins are extremely steep and rugged, with elevations ranging from 1,086 feet to 5,300 feet. A dense hardwood forest, some of which is virgin, blankets these slopes. The Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest, in the Santeelah Creek drainage, is 3,800 acres of impressive remnant of the vast virgin wilderness that once covered this region. The locals 'round here refer to this forest as "The Church".



Stone Mountain, Georgia:

Located just 30 miles from Atlanta, Stone Mountain is one of the World's great Natural Wonders. It is the World's largest exposed granite monolith; making it a unique ecosystem and Natural landmark unlike any other on Earth. With at least 15 rare plant species, it is home to near original forest and an abundant diversity of flora and fauna.

Stone Mountain Park is owned by the citizens of Georgia and is managed by a state appointed authority, the Stone Mountain Memorial Association (SMMA), who unfortunately has no supervision or accountability. They have used a mandate to be self sufficient as an endless excuse for new development. In the last 3 years this has accelerated in a park already suffering signs of overdevelopment and stress from recreational overuse. In spite of this knowledge management has created schemes to build 8 Olympic venues for the 1996 Olympic Games: an Incline Railway on the Mountain, reconfiguring one section of the park to include a whole town, an Aquarium, a new park entrance fragmenting wildlife habitat, as well as many other projects.

Park management has a history of violating State and Federal environmental laws as well as ignoring public concerns regarding development and loss of wildlife habitat in the pursuit of profit. Recognizing that this trend must be stopped, Friends of Stone Mountain Park (FOSM) was formed in 1992 dedicating itself to the preservation and protection of the Mountain and it's surrounding Park.

Thanks to FOSM many of these problems are finally being addressed. Five of the Olympic venues are now gone; including the rowing venue, the Incline Railway, and the Aquarium. Plans to implement a recovery plan for federally listed plant species are underway; including re-introduction. Plans to mange exotic species and conduct Park wide flora and fauna inventories are being considered, and Park management is now having to abide by State and Federal environmental laws.

In spite of these accomplishments much work remains. Continuing watch dog efforts will be necessary to make sure the above mentioned is carried to completion.

Currently, in the wake of the Incline Railway, FOSM is fighting alternate plans for the Mountain's summit which 30 years ago was desecrated by needless and ill advised buildings on the summit.

Today Stone Mountain stands at a crossroads; those buildings will apparently be taken down only to be replaced by new structures. A new skylift will also by built. It's planned double capacity and associated development are no better than the previously contemplated Incline Railway. It may very well be worse. A commitment to restore the summit to a Natural state will be ignored to accomplish this. The Stone Mountain Memorial Association should be forced to adhere to it's work; past mistakes must not be allowed to be repeated.

The possibility to return Stone Mountain to nearly it's original splendor does exist. If the current Stone Mountain Memorial Association does not fully explore this opportunity; they are no better than their predecessors. The time has come for Stone Mountain to be managed and respected for the Natural wonder it is; NOT as a cash cow for state bureaucrats.

Please write and demand that the buildings be taken off the summit and let the Mountain restore itself to a natural state.

Walter Gordon, Chairman
SMMA
P.O. Box 870
Hartwell, GA 30643

Wilds of the Great Smoky Mountains

The Great Smoky Mountains National Park, an International Biosphere Reserve, is one of the most biodiverse areas in the world. More tree species grow in the 812 square mile park than grow in all of northern Europe. With altitudes ranging from 900 feet all the way to 6,600 feet, its plant diversity is astounding - about 1500 flowering plants, 130 trees, 65 ferns and fern allies, 330 mosses and liverworts, 230 lichens and 1800 fungi are here! The park is, perhaps, the best preserved temperate deciduous woodland in the world, one that includes a total of over 100,000 acres of eastern primary forest. Seventy-one mammals, 240 birds, 80 reptiles and amphibians and 45 fish species are all found within the confines of the park. The park is known as the "salamander capital" of the United States with 22 species presently known.

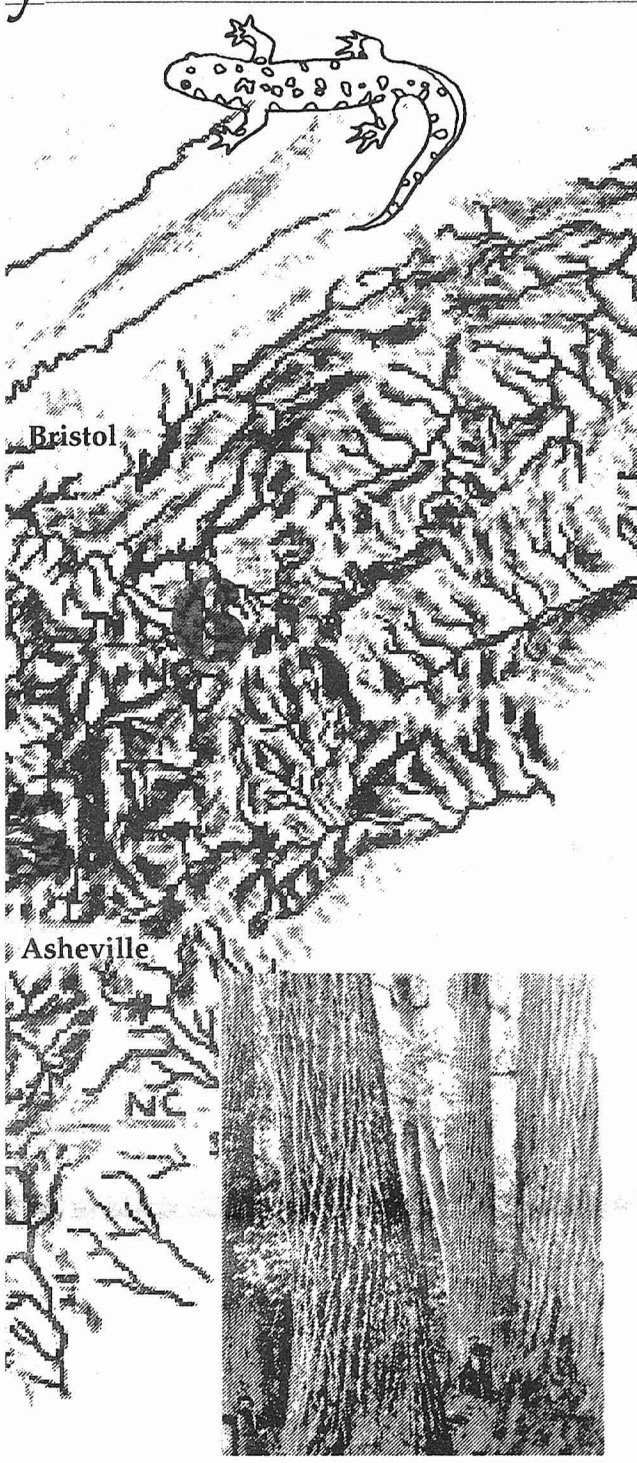
Trouble in Paradise

National park status has provided the Smokies with a measure of protection unequaled in the southern Appalachians, but the modern world is encroaching.

Every day air flow patterns expose the park to deadly air pollution produced by a ring of incinerators, automobiles, and nitrogen-, sulfur-, and toxic-emitting factories and utilities. The situation is so bad that now the park is often referred to as the "Great Smoggy Mountains". Visibility has been slashed by about 60 percent in the last 40 years - 80 percent in summer months. Mountain top forests receive high doses of acidic moisture even during dry periods. The magnificent Red Spruce and Fraser Fir are dying due to two human-caused factors: acid rain and the introduced balsam woolly adelgid. In the mid- and lower forests, ground-level ozone is damaging over 97 different plant species.

Elsewhere, exotics such as wild hogs, Rainbow Trout and Brown Trout have effectively displaced and killed many native forest and stream inhabitants. The American Chest-

y of the Southern Appalachians and Cumberland Plateau



nut, once a flowering, nut-producing tree standing high in the canopy, has been reduced to understory shrub status by the chestnut blight. The Flowering Dogwood and hemlock are currently facing the threat of blight and pest infestation.

The Road that Just Won't Go Away

The Park Service can do little to stop these threats without our help. Park Service officials, however, could immediately take steps to reduce the impact of the automobile in the park if they so desired. Nine million people come to the Smokies every year. Most visitors see the park via smog-belcher (car): the park has no public transportation system for any of its approximately 350 miles of roads. During the summer, no limits are placed on the number of cars allowed in the park and traffic is often bumper to bumper. As a result understaffed rangers in the park spend most of their time dealing with traffic and other urban problems while the misdeeds of black bear and plant poachers go unchecked.

In March 1994, representatives of SouthPAW, the Southern Appalachian Biodiversity Project, and the Native Forest Network met with park officials and recommended that the Park Service amend the Park plan to allow the permanent closure of Heintooga-Round Bottom Road- a 13.5 mile gravel road washed out by a 1992 flash flood. The Park Service rejected the road-to-trail-conversion idea which was originally the favored option in the formulation of the 1982 General Management Plan (GMP). In the final document, however, the park compromised with big-money interests and rednecks-on-wheels. Twelve years after the signing of that now-outdated plan, despite the GMP's assurance that "public transportation programs will be based on changing conditions and public opinion," Heintooga-Round Bottom Road remains open. Flash floods, fragmented and deteriorating forests can certainly be classified as changing conditions, what's needed now is more recognition of public opinion.

Write the Park Service: 1) ask that the road not be reconstructed and instead be converted to a non-motorized trail, 2) demand that the NPS do a full EIS prior to any action, 3) and emphasize that the addition of new roadless acres in the Park is vital to the success of efforts to save the black bears from poachers, increase the range of the red wolf, reintroduce extirpated species, and speed self reintroduction of other species.

Frank Pridemore
"Acting" Superintendent
GSMNP, 107 Park Headquarters Road
Gatlinburg, TN 37738
615/436-1201

Red Wolves

Deep in the hollers under the moonlit ridges of what we currently call the "Smokies" there is uttered a stirring and unsettling howl. One would be fortunate indeed to hear such a sound, for it's not been heard here for nearly a century. This is the voice of the red wolf (*Canis rufus*), rising above the backdrop of a shrinking landscape- invaded by parking lots, streetlights, amusement parks, and an ever evaporating common desire to see the true spirit of the wild running amongst us.

This beautiful creature once roamed freely throughout the southeast. Running in pairs and families rather than packs, it was able to outlast it's cousin the gray wolf and still resisted extinction in the wild by crossbreeding with the everpersistant trickster coyote. 50,000 wild canids, a large number of them red wolves, were destroyed between 1932 and 1964 by state and federal predator-control specialists, including US Fish and Wildlife Service. The red wolf was listed as an endangered species in 1967. During the early 1970's the Fish and Wildlife Service began the Red Wolf Recovery Program. It is ironic that the federal agency trying to save the species is the same one that launched aggressive predator control and poisoning programs against the red wolf.

For now, the Great Smoky Mountains National Park is part of a re-introduction program, it's boundaries the limits for five red wolves with radio collars.

For the wolves it is too early to know their fate. Until public sentiment and land use priorities change from the current situation toward one of restoration and an appreciation for a greater, truer freedom the wolves will always be on the edge of extinction. Until that day these mountains welcome the chance to once again be home to the red wolf.

Canton, North Carolina:

Champion International's pulp and paper mill in Canton, N.C. has been polluting the Pigeon River for over 80 years. The Pigeon River originates in the Shining Rock Wilderness Area of Western North Carolina, and flows along the northern boundary of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. This multinational corporation has contaminated the river with high levels of dioxin. Dioxin is a product of the chlorine pulp bleaching process and has been found to cause cancer, miscarriages, and birth defects. The EPA has said that dioxin is the most carcinogenic chemical known to humans, but they are unwilling to stop Champion from dumping their waste into the river. Over thirty miles of the Pigeon River is DEAD, and more than 167 people from the downstream community of Hartford, TN, population of 500 have died from cancer related deaths in the past 20 years. Champion also has been in violation of the Clean Water Act for over 20 years concerning a color variance that allows them to leave the Pigeon River coffee colored. Although Champion International Corporation claims they have instituted a modernization project at their Canton mill, the dead sections of the Pigeon River remain a testament to Champion's disregard for anything other than the almighty dollar bill.

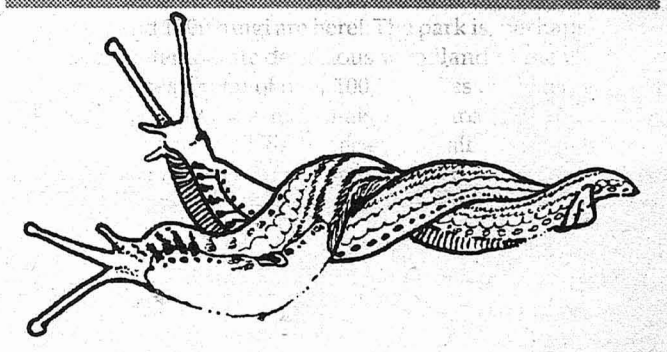
Please write the EPA in Atlanta and demand that Champion International be forced to come into compliance with the Clean Water Ace and stop using the Pigeon River as their waste water treatment facility. E.P.A.
Dir. Water Mngt. Division - Ray Cunningham
345 Cortland Street NE
Atlanta, GA 30365

Medicine Allies

In the traditional Cherokee Indian belief, the creatures in the world today are only diminutive forms of the mythic beings who once inhabited the world, but who now reside in Galuna'ti, the spirit world, the highest heaven. But a few of the original powers broke through the spiritual barrier and exist yet in the world as we know it. These beings are called with reverence "grandfathers". And of them, the strongest are Kanati, the lightning, the power of the sky; Utsa nati, the rattlesnake, who personifies the power of the earth plane; and Yunwi Usdi, "the little man", as ginseng is called in the sacred ceremonies, who draws up power from the underworld.

Each is the strongest power in its own domain. Together they are allies; their energies complement each other to form an even greater power. As medicine allies, they represent the healing powers of the Appalachian Mountains.

"To show respect for this supernatural trinity of the natural world is to in turn become an ally in the continuing process of maintaining harmony and balance here in the mountains of Katuah."



Big Ivy, Pisgah National Forest, North Carolina:

Big Ivy hosts some of the most beautiful examples of remnant old-growth forests in the eastern United States. Red Oaks 14 feet in circumference. 150 foot tall Sugar Maples. 400 year old Hemlocks. Incredible waterfalls and abundant black bears. Big Ivy contains healthy populations of at least 32 rare plant species including Wretched Sedge, Rock Gnome Lichen, and Bleeding Heart and 8 rare animal species including Carolina Northern Flying Squirrel, and Northern Saw-whet Owl. Perhaps no other place so well exemplifies the former grandeur of the Southern Appalachian forests that once were and can be again, if only we allow them to heal, to grow.

Cherokee National Forest

The Cherokee National Forest covers approximately 625,000 acres in 10 east Tennessee counties and is the only National Forest in Tennessee. It is divided into two halves by the Great Smoky Mountain National Park and its eastern border shares the ridge-tops with the Pisgah and Nantahala NF of North Carolina. There are six ranger districts on the Cherokee, the names of which all originate from the Cherokee language. Despite the Forest Service's crafty use of native words for their management schemes the meaning of those words and what sacredness they may hold has been neglected. Currently the Cherokee NF recognizes no sacred places for the people whose namesake it "borrows."

Any cultural sites that are recognized are not protected for ceremony, but are usually "worked around" for logging operations or completely ignored. On the northern Cherokee, in the Unaka district, heavy rains recently made a burial site visible near the Nolichucky River. This area is within Forest Service boundaries, but had been leased out to a farmer for growing tomatoes. Through the help of an anonymous FS employee who went behind the backs of his law-breaking supervisors, activists were alerted and the word was passed on to a newly formed group of Native Americans working with the American Indian Movement. The outcome a promise by the FS to no longer plow the area, and to protect the burial site.

But Forest Service promises run shallow. On an adjacent district, local activists won an appeal to halt an herbiciding project. Ignoring the law, the district ranger ordered the herbiciding to proceed, until he was caught in the act. No disciplinary action was taken.

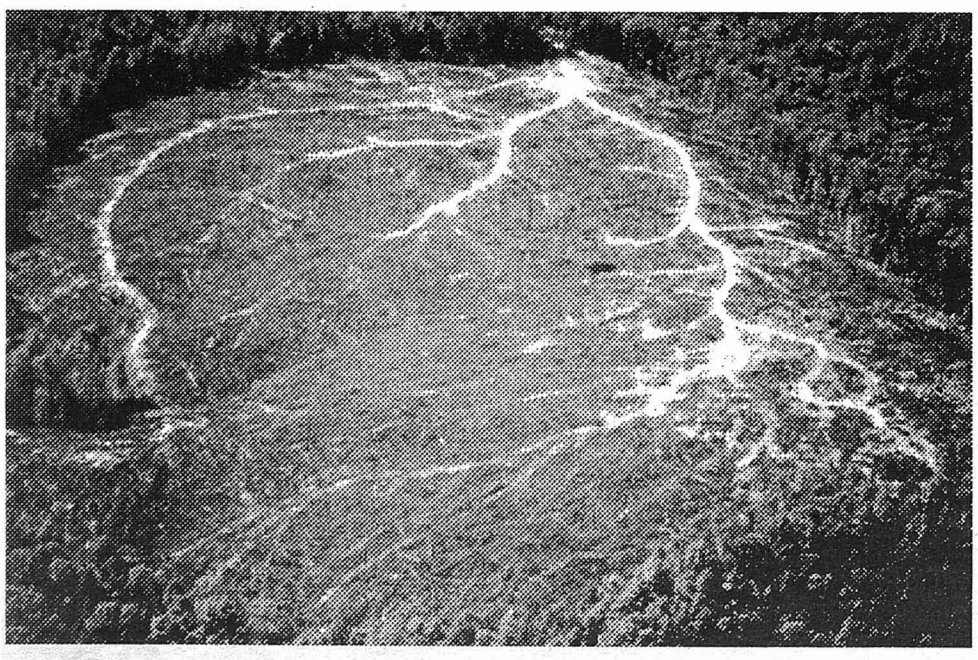
Throughout this National Forest the timber program is the main threat to recovery. While most of the timber sales are losing taxpayers' money, black bears are losing ground to logging roads. Black bears have already been eliminated across 90-95% of their range in the southeastern United States. Long term research indicates that high road densities pose one of the greatest threats to the survival of black bear in the Southern Appalachians. Bear avoid the traffic of roads, and the presence of high road density places stress on a species that normally avoids human contact. It would be possible to link isolated bear populations on federal lands in the Southern Appalachian region. However, Forest Management Plans make no attempt to forge that link and will obliterate future possibilities through more roads and continued logging.

Road density standards are excessively high, allowing 0.5 mile of road per square mile in significant black bear habitat and 1.0 mile of road per square mile elsewhere in the forest. Yet on every district of the Cherokee NF these lax standards are exceeded. And this is with out the inclusion of "boundary" roads which constitute the "borders of transportations analysis units." Gated roads are also excluded from the inventory, and are recognized as "wildlife linear food plots." These roads have significant impact on the forest, and exclusion of them gives the false impression of low road densities to the public.

Chattahoochee and Sumter National Forests

The Chattahoochee National Forest in Northern Georgia and the Sumter National Forest in the northwestern corner of South Carolina offer the worst examples of what's occurring on public lands in the Southern Appalachians. With allowable road densities on the Sumter being 2 miles of road per square mile of forest, much damage has already been rendered. Conversion of naturally occurring tree stands to pine species is playing a big role in the loss of forest diversity on both of these forests. Raburn County, Georgia holds the legacy of a district ranger gone mad. Recent years show clusters of clearcuts fragmenting the landscape and currently salvage sales claim wind damage as the excuse for more cutting.

The good news is that the Chattooga River, designated as Wild and Scenic, is finally receiving deserved attention. The watershed for this river lies in the Chattahoochee, Sumter, and Nantahala National Forests. A comprehensive approach is being taken to look at water quality and how the actions on one National Forest may spill over onto another. Slowly the Forest Service is beginning to recognize Ecosystems as a whole in the Southern Appalachians. But the problems that exist elsewhere in the country also persist here- the fact being the USFS insists on managing these ecosystems as fair game for resource extraction.



Clearcut on the Tellico District of the Cherokee National Forest.

Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests

The Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests of western North Carolina is comprised of over one million acres. It is home to the Cradle of Forestry, a forestry school where Gifford Pinchot promoted European forestry techniques for the first time on a large scale in North America. These teachings are the origins of the Forest Service's current mismanagement practices which are being implemented across the U.S.

Although recognized as two separate Forests, the Pisgah and Nantahala are managed under one plan. This plan has recently undergone much public scrutiny - a lawsuit which forced the FS to amend the plan. Even though the new plan addresses the issues of old growth and biodiversity, promises to reduce clearcutting, and lower the Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ), the cove hardwoods are still at risk.

The Forest Service in North Carolina has yet to define what "old growth" means to them, much less how to protect it. The other remaining "young growth" forest will be significantly fragmented by previous cuts and those that the new Plan would allow. A strong effort must be made to move the Forest Service further into the realm of forest restoration and halt logging all together.

HEMLOCK GROVE
Robert Hoyt
©1994

Sittin' 'round the campfire on a starry night
Down in the hemlock grove
Tomorrow I'll be shaded from the bright daylight
Down in the hemlock grove
In the flat between the mountains where the wild turkey roam
The firefly and the foxfire make their home
I know I don't belong here but somehow I do
Down in the hemlock grove

The smoke seems to follow me wherever I go
From my campfire in the hemlock grove
And if people knew what I know
Down in the hemlock grove
Cause they're cutting over yonder
They're cutting over there
It seems so crazy and it seems so unfair
It took a hundred years for these woods to repair
Since they last cut this hemlock grove

Listen to the sound of a babbling brook
Down in the hemlock grove
You can hear voices above the roar
Down in the hemlock grove
Mumbling and muttering, laughter and screams
You'd have to hear it to know what I mean
You come to realize you're never alone
When your down in the hemlock grove
Down in the hemlock grove

Jefferson National Forest

Although the Jefferson is quite a small national forest, it is remarkable because it covers three distinct physiographic provinces of the southern Appalachians- the Cumberland Plateau and Mountains, the Ridge and Valley Province, and the Blue Ridge.

In the Cumberland formations, the Clinch Ranger District plans to cut many remaining portions of its heavily overcut lands in order to "cure" alleged oak decline. Over 5,000 acres have been selected for high-grade logging (up to 18 trees per acre), essentially the complete removal of the mature component of the forest. More miles of road on steep terrain will be built in areas that already exceed Plan guidelines. In one area, road densities are already **200%** above Plan guidelines. But because this is a "salvage" project, there is no public comment or appeal process.

Further to the North and East on the Jefferson, in the Ridge and Valley section, a program of aerial gypsy moth spraying is planned. Dimilin and Bt, the two insecticides to be used, are toxic to a wide array of arthropods and are not just contained to gypsy moths - dimilin being the most deadly. Insecticides frequently drift far beyond the project boundaries when aerially sprayed. The spray area is believed to contain populations of the rare Diana Butterfly (*Speyeria diana*).

Nearby, the New River descends from the south and passes on to the north, cutting its way through the folds of the Ridge and Valley Province. The New River, actually one of the oldest rivers on Earth, has long been a conduit for plant and animal dispersion. In March of 1994, the Virginia Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) voted to route a Detroit-to-Myrtle Beach interstate highway (73) along an existing highway through the New River Valley. This decision was made immediately after local officials voted against the highway.

Along the Blue Ridge on the Glenwood District are two areas known as Apple Orchard and North Creek, home to the Peaks of Otter Salamander (*Plethodon hubrichti*), an endemic salamander with a very small distribution range. The Forest Service is allowing a study on clearcutting the habitat of this salamander to proceed in near secrecy; the public was not properly informed of the study or allowed to have a real say in the monitoring program as required for all de facto Management Indicator Species. Portions of the Peaks of Otter Salamander's habitat have probably already been logged; logging is believed to have negative effects on the salamander. In spite of this, the Forest Service plans to log other areas even before the results of the study are out.

Further south down the Blue Ridge in the Mt. Rogers highland country, roadbuilding threatens to fragment and degrade the habitat of Red Spruce and Fraser Firs forests, the Carolina Northern Flying Squirrel, Brook Trout, and many salamander species. In 1992, the CTB announced plans to build new U.S. 58, a four-lane highway just miles to the north of this area. Four-lane 58 would divide a National Recreation Area, bring in scads of unwanted automobiles and parking lots, and change forever the small-town/rural communities of this part of Virginia. The CTB has not backed down despite a stated preference for the no-build alternative by the Forest Service, National Park Service, Appalachian Trail Conference, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Army Corps of Engineers, Environmental Protection Agency, state Department of Conservation and Recreation, state Water Control Board, and numerous citizens. One CTB member reported receiving mail that favored the no-build option by 25 to 1.

These and many other atrocities throughout the Jefferson NF have Katúah Earth First!ers as well as other folks out here riled. With this area being the furthest north in our bioregion it makes it difficult for us to keep a close watch on things. We rely on the help of those further north working with Virginians for Wilderness to make restoration a reality in this vital link of habitat range in the mountains.

This primer was conceived and put together by Katúah Earth First! For more information on anything in this primer or to get involved with our work please contact us at one of the below listed addresses:

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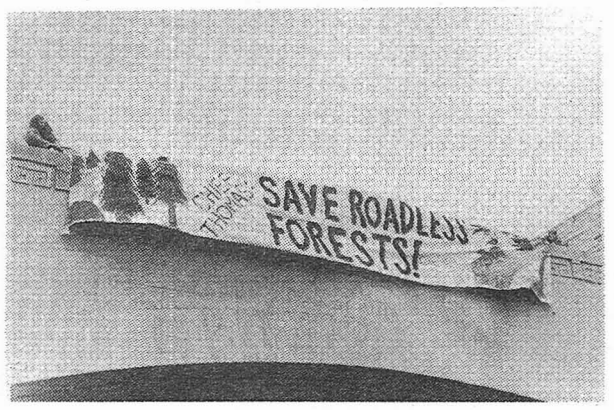
Cove/Mallard Coalition Confronts Jack Ward Thomas

BY JAKE KREILICK

In early March, a few stalwarts from the Cove/Mallard Coalition (CMC) put on our political flak jackets and went to Washington, DC, for Cove/Mallard Action Week. We were intent on taking our message straight to Forest Service headquarters and to its new chief, Jack Ward Thomas. The coalition also wanted to generate interest in the campaign from some of the national environmental groups who could help to protect this critical habitat corridor.



In a 45-minute meeting with the CMC, Thomas and two associates listened as we aired our concerns, goals and a bit of the Forest Service's dirty laundry. Surprisingly, they let us dictate the course of the discussion, allowing us to hammer on our key points and enunciate our demands. The main issue we reiterated throughout was the value of all remaining roadless areas in the northern Rockies to the region's biological diversity. Quite simply, we stated that the roadless areas are the building blocks for restoring ecosystems and healthy, diverse forest communities.

The other issue we stressed was the significance of the Cove/Mallard campaign in the context of the bigger battle—the fight to protect the Greater Salmon-Selway Ecosystem—the most intact native forest in the lower 48. The Cove/Mallard timber sales have illuminated Forest Service plans to road and log throughout the entire ecosystem to make up the slack for declining cuts in other regions. The CMC presented the following list of demands to Chief Thomas:

1. Immediate cessation of all logging and roadbuilding activities in the Cove and Mallard roadless areas.
2. The Forest Service should focus on creating RARE III (Roadless Area Review and Evaluation III) which would form the framework for ecosystem recovery and the creation of new roadless areas that were left out of RARE II.
3. Removal of Region One Forester Dave Jolly and Nez Perce Forest Supervisor Mike King because they have blatantly broken the law and lied to the public.
4. The Forest Service must cease the harassment of citizens exercising their constitutional rights on public lands.
5. The Forest Service must inject more scientific knowledge into all issues affecting the Greater Salmon-Selway Ecosystem, the largest native forest in the lower 48 states.

Representatives from the Native Forest Network, Save America's Forests, Greenpeace and the Center for Responsive Law all emphasized to Chief Thomas that this destructive project will not help change the public's perception of the Forest Service as the number one roadbuilding agency in the world. Despite their attentiveness and respect for the campaign, the kingpins of the Forest Service confirmed our suspicions—that the agency is committed to opening up roadless areas in the northern Rockies to timber production by implementing scientifically unsound Forest Plans. Referring to Cove/Mallard, Thomas stated, "We're going in. It's in the Forest Plans and we have to implement them."

Despite the lack of progress on Forest Service roadbuilding and clearcutting, it was encouraging to hear Thomas express concern for the rights and safety of activists in the campaign. This was the most emotional part of the meeting as I explained in detail the incidents of violence and physical intimidation directed at Earth First!ers and other forest activists. Thomas was visibly shaken. He promised to communicate to Regional Forester Jolly and Forest Supervisor King that the Forest Service was very concerned about the risks of violence and that the agency was obligated to protect each activist's constitutional rights. This was the only positive aspect of the meeting, illustrating that the Forest Service was starting to understand the national scope of the campaign.

Immediately following the meeting, the CMC held a demonstration outside the Forest Service. Three activists were arrested while hanging a 30-foot banner from an arch connecting the two Department of Agriculture buildings. The banner, which read, "Chief Thomas: SAVE ROADLESS FORESTS!" stayed up long enough for Thomas and company to have the message sink in. The point of the protest was to remind the Forest Service that the CMC will keep pressuring the agency until it stops encroaching on Cove/Mallard and other roadless areas in the Greater Salmon-Selway Ecosystem.

The Cove/Mallard campaign is only the beginning in a much larger, more protracted struggle to allow the native forests, wildlife communities and wilderness characteristics of the northern Rockies to flourish. If we can glean anything from our meeting with Jack Ward Thomas, it's that forest groups and activists are going to have to earn every victory because the Forest Service isn't going to protect anything voluntarily.

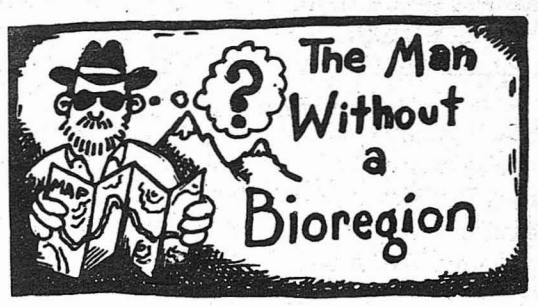
Rangers in a Strange Land

BY MIKE ROSELLE

Nobody can say Earth First! doesn't know how to create jobs in a depressed timber economy. The last few years have seen a phenomenal growth in the law enforcement industry here in Idaho as the Freddies, the Idaho State Troopers and the local Sheriff's Department have spent millions of dollars protecting the timber industry from Earth First!

The latest development in this trend is a new class of wannabe paramilitary jerk-offs parading around as Earth First! counterterrorism experts. They're trying to sell the logging companies a bill of goods that includes not only their "expertise," but guard dogs, high-tech sensors, and—just like any run-of-the-mill, new age guru—high-priced security seminars.

On April 12, in Potlatch, a hard-core, two-mill town just north of Moscow, the Wise-Use meatheads took their dog-and-pony show on the road. Barry Clausen and Bob Taylor worked a mostly-friendly crowd of loggers and ranchers, displaying their wizardry and total command of the subject of international environmental terrorism.



These guys boast of impressive records. Clausen claims to have spent an entire year infiltrating Wild Rockies Earth First! What a laugh! I couldn't even infiltrate wild Rockies Earth First! and I tried for two years! Barry Clausen couldn't infiltrate a marshmallow.

Taylor is a self-professed "high security consultant," a former operational team leader with the Delta Force, and airborne Ranger. He was also Security Coordinator for the US Embassy in El Salvador. He bristled when Wade Gruhl of INWARD accused him of working with right-wing death squads in that country's civil war. "That's impossible" he snorted, "You had to be a Salvadoran citizen to be in a death squad." He sounded almost disappointed.

But let's face it, if these guys are the best they've got, we should start wearing hunter day-glow vests so that these guys could have an even chance of finding us in the RV campground at Knott's Berry Farm. I've seen better heads on stale Coors.

We rode up from Moscow along with some other conservationists and a few curious people who worked or owned businesses here in town to try to convince the people of Potlatch that they had nothing to fear from us, and that we were not afraid of them. Imagine my surprise when Bob Taylor, after a half-hour of incoherent rambling in disjointed military-speak, asked me if I would like to address the crowd.

I took to the podium and tried to explain about how we were just trying to save a little wildlife habitat in a world-class wilderness area. I tried to remind them that civil disobedience has played a very important role in the evolution of democracy in this country and that the two bozos to my right thought they were playing soldier in a James Bond movie. Jeeziz! It was a tough crowd. Like being Rush Limbaugh at a Dead show.

Several others in the crowd stood up to speak as well. They accused the timber industry of spreading hate in their communities and inciting violence against anyone who disagreed with their party line. At one point, Ric Valois, representing the Environmental Rangers from Sun River, Montana, objected to their use of military terminology and all the talk of war and the enemy. "He is full of shit," Valois said, pointing to Taylor. When Taylor asked Ric who he was referring to, Ric answered, "You, sir! You are full of shit! Shooting people is not good." He continued: "War is not a good thing, it's the worst thing you can do to each other." Ric, a decorated soldier and also a former Airborne Ranger, knew what he was talking about.

Mark Solomon of the Idaho Conservation League, knowing personally the propensity these situations have for erupting into violence, convinced the local police to show up in force. More overtime! But for once, I think most of us were glad they showed up. I would have hated to see what would have happened if any of those dime-store Rambos had tried to strut their stuff and the cops had to cuff 'em. I don't enjoy seeing grown men cry.

We left Potlatch with mixed emotions. Nobody in that crowd was even close to distinguishing between conservation and terrorism, but everyone raised their hands when Taylor asked who in the crowd thought they were environmentalists. The newspapers in the area ran front page coverage of the meeting and seemed to grudgingly give us a little respect for, as one of the local cops put it, "Walking through a lion's den wearing porkchop underwear." But people in Idaho seem mostly to want an end to all this inflammatory rhetoric, and I think the timber industry is beginning to lose the struggle for the hearts and minds of the average citizens here. I can only hope that these wackos don't succeed in causing any more of the violence that has characterized the last two years of this campaign.

When Free Speech is Outlawed, Only Outlaws Will Speak Freely

BY HONKIN' GOOSE

On March 28, Cecil Andrus, the governor of Idaho, signed into law House Bill 728, making it a felony to solicit or conspire to commit any crime with the specific intent of halting, impeding, obstructing or interfering with *legal* management, cultivation or harvesting of timber.

Hey everybody, c'mon out to Idaho!

I wouldn't dare solicit or conspire to get people to halt, impede, obstruct or interfere with the illegal logging that's going on out here, but if you value your first amendment right to *freedom of speech*, get your asses out here. The law goes into effect in July.

Express yourself!

THE THIN GREEN LINE

RIPARIAN ECOSYSTEMS OF THE SOUTHWEST

BY TOM FULLUM, NATIVE FOREST NETWORK

Flooding scares people. Images of flash floods drowning entire towns have permeated the average mindset. As this perception becomes more ingrained, floods are more associated with dollar amounts and injuries than with the natural rhythms and cycles of life. And, as hapless TV junkies absorb images of destruction from recent flooding in the midwest, their ability to understand flooding as an ecological phenomenon becomes as removed as their understanding of forest fires.

Why is this so important? In the southwest, the role of flooding in the natural ecosystem has been reversed. Once beneficial, flooding is now more often destructive. When the Santa Cruz River flooded in 1983, not only did it cause $100 million dollars in property destruction, but untold ecological damage occured to a river that is now a ghost of its former self.

This winter, I visited the San Francisco River. After sending four cows on the run of their lives, I was dismayed to find the river trashed. Just four years earlier, I had engaged in the dubious task of constructing a fence along a portion of the river. This fence was meant to exclude cattle from the river and although I never personally experienced the results, I saw the pictures. The difference between the grazed and ungrazed portions was as clear as day and night.

The fence was gone. Decades of grazing and other impacts had left the river unprepared for heavy rain. Two successive floods had washed out the fence and scoured the Frisco, straightening the twists and turns of the river, steeply undercutting the banks, and leaving sandy, nutrient stripped beaches barren of the grand cottonwood forests that once graced this canyon. It was disheartening.

Once a dense cottonwood/willow gallery forest, this nuked section of the San Francisco River is grazed every other year. Notice the nutrient stipped soil and channel disturbances (erosion, braiding, straightening, widening and shallowing). Intensified flooding is quickly accelerating this river's degredation.

photo by Tom Fullum

I wrote Gila National Forest Supervisor Carl Pence, documented my observations, and suggested that it was "time to say goodbye to the foolish days when forest supervisors thought it was OK to graze cattle in riparian ecosystems." Four weeks later, Pence promptly responded and offered this insight, "the apparent change you note in a segment of the San Francisco River between April 1990 and this fall is probably more a result of variable precipitation patterns and high flow events that occurred during the spring of 1992 and winter of 1993 than ongoing management." Thanks, Carl. Never underestimate the power of the letter.

Southwest Riparian Ecosystems

Let's pay a visit to a time before the Europeans began the "Great Paving and Grazing Project" in North America. It is important to understand what a healthy system looked like before the present conditions can be placed in perspective.

Since "healthy" may be hard to conceptualize, an early description of the Gila River by a "pioneer" may help. In 1857, the Gila was "a large, essentially permanent stream of clear to 'sea green' water, with a well-defined narrow channel flanked by numerous cottonwoods and set off by a dense growth of willows and cane that rendered it difficult to approach. Along its course were numerous lagoons and extensive marshes that abounded in waterfowl, beaver, and fish life."

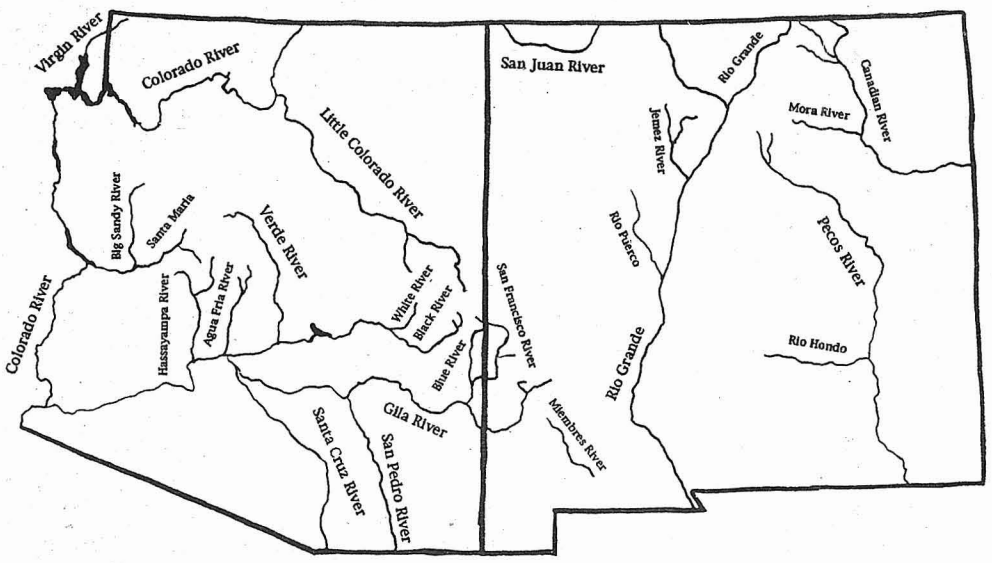
Every stream course and wetland of the southwest was once bounded by lush, dense vegetation. The composition of these communities changed by elevation and yearly rainfall. Even in the midst of desert, riparian areas contained thick scrub habitat and teemed with wildlife, but the most prevalent mid-elevation riparian community was canopied cottonwood/willow gallery forests. The Santa Cruz River once supported cottonwood/willow forests, bosques (woods) with giant mesquite trees up to 60 feet tall, wet marshes, meadows, and oak woodlands before the development of Tucson.

These rich ecosystems had multiple layers of microhabitats where a diverse array of wildlife could live side by side without being in direct competition. For instance, the structural diversity in riparian forests provided numerous nesting opportunities for breeding birds from the highest branches of a cottonwood to the protective interior of a willow.

The river itself offered deep pools, shallow riffles, undercut banks and other freshwater habitats to shelter the fishes and other aquatic denizens of the southwest. Beavers built dams, creating ponds and marshes that held great stores of organic nutrients. Insects buzzed over clear waters.

The entire ecosystem moderated itself. The perennial waters nourished plants and wildlife, the forest canopy provided shade and kept water temperatures constant, understory vegetation held the banks together, and seasonal flooding created natural disturbances, resetting the clock to zero in places, necessary to keep the whole system vibrant and dynamic.

Flooding brought change. Muddy floodwaters gathered rich organic sediment from upland reaches and distributed it downstream, initiating a new round of growth. Spring flooding saturated the soil for the several weeks necessary for germination of cottonwood seeds. Floods cut new river channels, washed out dying trees, and caused other important disturbances keeping the whole ecosystem alive and healthy.



MAJOR RIVERS OF
ARIZONA AND NEW MEXICO

Typically, the southwest experiences two rounds of flooding each year, spring runoff and a monsoon season in late summer. In a healthy system, a flood is never a fast, tumultuous wall of water ripping its way down a river (flash flood); rather, it is a slow moving affair. When a flood starts in the high country, healthy upland watersheds efficiently absorb huge amounts of runoff—water that will be slowly released in the coming months and keep many rivers perennial—before delivering the remainder into stream channels.

As the flood progresses downstream, natural obstacles keep the floodwaters in check at every bend of the river. The narrow, meandering river, dense riparian vegetation, beaver ponds, and other elements all decrease the flow and keep floods from becoming catastrophic events. By the time it reaches lower elevations, it has spread wide and far across the floodplain where little topsoil or water empties into the sea.

Not any more, folks

The riparian ecosystems of New Mexico and Arizona have been trashed since the arrival of European settlers in the early 1800's. The flooding described above is a natural disturbance required by these ecosystems, much as fire regenerates healthy pine forests. Today, flooding still occurs but is more often destructive because these systems have been so heavily impacted.

It is estimated that 90-98% of the original riparian areas of New Mexico and Arizona have been lost. While these wetlands never comprised more than one to two percent of the total land surface, 75% of southwest wildlife are dependent upon them for at least one portion of their life cycle and more than half of these species must have access to riparian habitat to survive. Riparian ecosystems are the premier biological resource of the arid southwest.

Grazing

Livestock grazing has clearly had the most pronounced effect on the landscape and riparian ecosystems of the west. The heaviest damage occurred during settlement in the 1800's and subsequent generations had little choice but to reduce livestock numbers. This has led modern ranchers to cleverly say, "western rangelands are in their best condition in over one hundred years."

The destruction of southwestern wetlands is portrayed by the livestock industry as a complex set of issues not yet fully understood by public land managers and scientists. This is largely a stall tactic designed to thwart the obvious solutions—removing the cows and keeping the water instream. There are very few ungrazed sites left and thousands of miles of streambanks have been denuded, often transformed from perennial wooded streams to barren arroyos. Since cattle rarely wander more than three kilometers from a water source, it is no wonder that rivers have been the hardest hit.

Changes brought on by grazing have intensified flooding that undisturbed areas once controlled. Depleted, less absorbent soils and decreased vegetative cover of both upland watersheds and river channels has led to increased runoff during the spring melt and summer monsoons. These faster, destructive flows wash out trees, scour floodplains of topsoil and vegetation, channelize and scour streams, and over deposit silt and clay during flood recession. Some of the most severe changes to the Gila River system occurred as a result of grazing during devastating floods in 1833, 1868, and 1891.

Dams

Nothing kills a river more than a dam (well, maybe a cow). They significantly alter the natural ecology of rivers and within a decade or two an alien landscape appears. A frenzy of dam building by the Bureau of Reclamation after World War II left the San Francisco and San Pedro as the only undammed rivers in New Mexico and Arizona, respectively.

Disruption of natural flood regimes, irregular flows, and lessened water quality from dams wreak havoc on upstream and downstream habitat. The reservoirs are often deep, cold, tens of miles long, and drown the original vegetation. Downstream, the unnatural rising and lowering of river levels heavily impacts

vegetation, banks, and aquatic habitats. Warm water fishes must now contend with irregular releases of cold water.

Dams halt the flow of nutrients. Like a gardener spreading compost, flooding distributed organic sediments along the entire length of a river. Vegetative communities downstream of a dam are deprived of these nutrients and decline as a result.

Natural salts, once quickly flushed from river systems, become concentrated in reservoirs. The non-native tamarisk, or saltcedar, is salt tolerant and has rapidly replaced native riparian vegetation. Salts are stored in their leaves which are dropped if concentrations are too toxic. The surrounding soil then becomes salinated and few plants can successfully germinate under such conditions. The invasion is complete.

The 1,450 mile long Colorado River drains an area of 244,000 square miles and is the most legislated, litigated, and debated river in the world. Seven major dams (Glen Canyon, Hoover, Laguna, Moreles, Davis, Parker, and Imperial) and a few smaller diversion dams have seriously damaged the environment of western America's premier river. Flow regulation from the Glen Canyon Dam has washed away beaches, wiped out vegetation, killed off the beavers, driven away the cliff swallows, and reduced the Colorado squawfish and humpback chub to remnant populations.

Other Water Projects

Dewatering in the form of ground water pumping, stock ponds, and irrigation has also had tremendous effects. Lowering of the water table around Tucson and Phoenix is in excess of 100 meters in places where it once was only a few meters below the surface. Recently, "unexplained" sinkholes have begun to appear in the vicinity of the nearly dry Santa Cruz River.

A new river system in the southwest has been constructed in the form of concrete canals. Devised and built by the Bureau of Reclamation, the Central Arizona Project (CAP) diverts over 500 billion gallons of water a year from the 45 mile long "Lake" Havasu on the Colorado River, spreading the wealth all the way to end-of-the-line Tucson. The 375 miles of canals cost Arizona taxpayers $4.7 billion dollars and resulted in some of the foulest tasting water in the US. Among other major diversions, a billion gallons a day leaves the Havasu reservoir and travels 242 miles down the Colorado River Aqueduct to southern California cities.

Channelization, the overall straightening of a stream, wipes out important aquatic habitat for fish and invertebrates and is generally the result of high flood events. The Army Corps of Engineers deliberately channelizes rivers for flood "control," mostly around urban areas, because floodwaters are less likely to spill over the banks when sent through a straight channel. The entire Santa Cruz River has been channelized by both flooding and channel modification.

Vegetation Removal

Historically, conversion to cropland occurred almost exclusively along streams and in floodplains. Early settlers typically cleared mesquite bosques because they provided fuelwood and indicated rich soil and ample water supply. And so went the incredible woodlands and bosques of rivers like the Gila, Santa Cruz, and Rio Grande.

Phreatophytes are plants that live in moisture saturated soil. The water "experts" of the mid-1950's thought they could create more water and control floods through phreatophyte eradication programs. Major eradication projects were conducted by the Bureau of Reclamation along lower stretches of the Gila, Salt, and Verde Rivers that were once the mainstays of Native American cultures. Up to 5000 acres were cleared at a time.

The plan backfired. Without vegetation to naturally impede floodwaters, the resulting higher, faster flows channelized rivers and both water and topsoil disappeared into the sea. The very plants that farmers and ranchers thought drank too much of their precious water actually insured a high water table.

Mining and Pollution

High on the eastern slopes of the Santa Fe Mountains in New Mexico, the Pecos River qualifies as a Superfund site from heavy metal and lead contamination from the Amax mining company. Sand and gravel companies, in response to rampant urban growth in Arizona, stripped economically desirable stream terraces and channels. Mining and pollution still significantly threaten southwestern rivers.

The Rio Grande cuts across Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas, traveling over 1,800 miles and draining some 355,500 square miles before sending its poisoned froth into the Gulf of Mexico. It's seventh largest tributary is the Albuquerque sewer system. Contaminated with industrial waste, agricultural pesticides and runoff, municipal sewage, heavy metals, and mine wastes, pollution along the lower reaches separating Mexico and Texas has reached crisis levels.

photo by Tom Fullum

Montane riparian vegetation on the quickly descending Jemez River at ca. 2200m. Alder, oak willow scrub trees, and elements of adjacent coniferous forest shape these communities.

Other Impacts

Today, commercial and housing developments usually occur in floodplains. The continuing invasion of exotic plant species such as saltcedar and Russian olive creates less desirable habitats for native birds and wildlife. Lastly, recreational opportunities in the southwest often involve riparian areas and incur heavy human impacts.

What's at Stake

The loss of southwestern riparian ecosystems has profoundly affected the plant and wildlife communities of New Mexico and Arizona. Over 125 threatened riparian obligate or associate species occur across both states. These declining vertebrates are found where the best habitat remains, often without adequate protection.

Riparian ecosystems in the southwest contain the highest bird breeding densities in the US and are essential travel corridors for neotropical migrants such as the southwest willow flycatcher, a proposed endangered species. Species of concern number in the dozens and include the yellow-billed cuckoo, elegant trogon, black hawk, and black-bellied whistling duck.

The fastest disappearing wildlife in North America is fish. Grazing and destructive flooding continues to wipe out aquatic habitats and the survivors must compete with introduced game fish. 67 non-native fishes have been dropped into the waters of Arizona. Some have become predominate in waters throughout the southwest. By comparison, the 34 natives are not faring well; one is extinct (gone forever - the Monkey Springs pupfish), two are extirpated, three are recently reestablished, and only four are not federally/state listed or candidate species. Particular species of concern are the loach minnow, spikedace, and numerous subspecies of trout, chubs, and suckers.

Herpetological communities are also vanishing. Leopard frogs are not only declining due to loss of habitat, dewatering, and competition from introduced bullfrogs, but also from global nightmares such as ozone depletion and air pollution, including sulfur dioxide emissions from US and Mexican copper smelters.

Mammals also rely heavily on riparian habitat. The grizzly bear has been extirpated from the southwest. Hunting records indicate a close association with riparian zones. The only beneficial dams ever built were once a huge flood control system maintained by beavers, until trappers decimated this expert hydrologist. To reintroduce the possibly extinct southwestern river otter and head-off extinction for the spotted bat increased riparian protection must occur.

Riparian plants were old when birds and mammals began to proliferate 65 million years ago, but can they survive the humans? Once the most common riparian community, Fremont cottonwood/Gooding willow forests is now North America's rarest natural community and only five extensive occurrences still survive. Mesquite bosques that once stretched for miles are presently listed as the fourth rarest plant community. Of at least 50 historically described occurrences of cienegas (wet marshes), only one of fifteen remaining is protected.

Today, little of what's left is protected. The BLM designated 43,400 acres of the San Pedro River as a Riparian National Conservation Area and took the cows out. This 30 mile corridor supports some of the best remaining large broadleaf riparian areas and mesquite bosques, and serves as a migration route for pantropical wildlife species moving in and out of Mexico. The only other river known to have similarly healthy reaches of riparian forests is the undammed Rio Magdalena in the Sierra Madres of Mexico. A 40 mile portion of the Verde River and an upper segment of the Rio Grande are the southwest's two Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Riparian ecosystems are old and essential. Whether or not they survive this generation depends on open minds and an end to the heaviest impacts. Livestock grazing in the west is a foolish, unsustainable endeavor; unless, of course, the annihilation of the wild is an acceptable byproduct. The west has become one huge sacrifice zone for the perpetuation of the cowboy myth and survival of an economically insignificant, but politically powerful industry.

The withdrawal of grazing from riparian areas is necessary, but only part of a solution which must include protection of upland watersheds. Instream flows must also be guaranteed and returned to the waterways of the southwest to facilitate regeneration of riparian forests. And the dams have just got to go. Continued pressure on public lands agencies is helpful and letters of comment are requested: USFS Region 3, Federal Building, 517 Gold Avenue SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102, and USFWS Region 2, POB 1306, Albuquerque, NM 87103. Southwest residents are encouraged to adopt a stream or river and monitor the public agencies managing its future. Contact NFN Southwest, POB 1788, Silver City, NM 88062 for further information and assistance.

photo by Tom Fullum

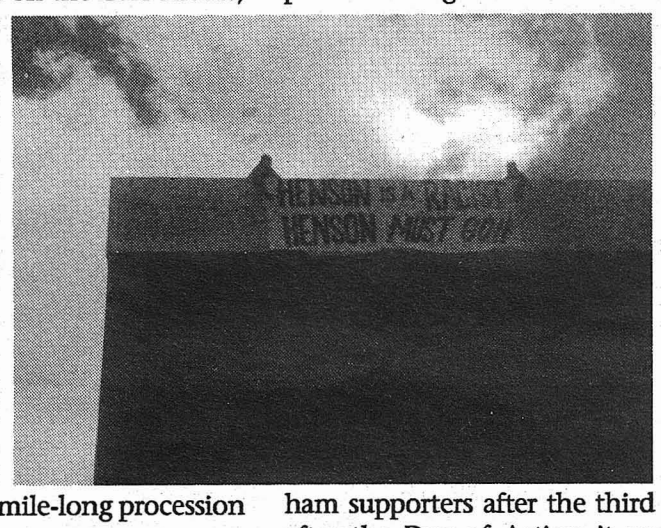
Inaccessible to cattle, this dry wash feeds into the San Francisco 1 kilometer upstream. There is much heavier vegetation of oaks, willow, and grasses than on perennial river below. Grazed portions at its mouth are heavily eroded and channelized.

Mt. Graham Day of Action

continued from page 1

million investment in the Columbus telescope (renamed Large Binocular Telescope). That sum is part of what is needed to complete the second half of the scope, but it won't be coming from Pittsburgh. The University announced it would invest its money elsewhere later that day, leaving only one American partner still invested, the Tucson-based Research Corporation.

Federal agencies were targeted nationwide. A band of angry red squirrels descended on the Carbondale, Illinois, offices of the Forest Service. About 40 Earth First!ers in Washington, DC, lowered a "BABBITT BEHIND BARS" banner over the Interior Building in protest of Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt's failure to order a scientific review on the Columbus site. As yet, there is no word of Babbitt's pending incarceration. DeForest Service offices in Burlington, Vermont, Minneapolis, Atlanta, were also targets of protest. In Portland, Oregon, some 50 activists followed a six and a half-foot red squirrel on a mile-long procession to the agency's Region 6 offices.



The San Francisco archdiocese of the Catholic Church played host to about a hundred people representing Earth First!, California American Indian Movement (AIM), Greenpeace, and the Student Environmental Action Coalition, and to a number of unidentified space aliens seeking conversion. Informational pickets were held during Easter Masses at cathedrals and churches in Tucson, New York, Santa Fe and Los Angeles.

On an international level, 50 astronomers from universities and research institutes across Europe appealed to U of A to stop building the telescopes on the mountain. Scientists from Oxford, Cambridge, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Durham, Manchester, Liverpool, Sussex, Belfast, the Netherlands, Germany, Copenhagen, Russian Academy of Science and many others signed a petition against the telescope project.

Meanwhile, back in the Tucson office of the Research Corporation, the last American partner in the telescope project fought back. The not-for-profit scientific research foundation is offering $7.5 million to the U of A to help complete the eyes of Columbus. About 25 activists gathered in their office, and three protesters refused to leave without speaking to the foundation's director. Thus they were arrested and charged with disorderly conduct and criminal trespass. Another student activist was arrested outside the building for taking pictures (such a public menace).

The very same day, the Research Corporation began to put together a SLAPP suit against the four and "all persons calling themselves Friends of Mount Graham" (how many people is that, anyway?). The suit asks for damages and injunctive relief. They hope to gain compensation for lost business hours and damage to freshly poured concrete (that the cops, not the protesters, stepped in, by the way).

But the threat of a suit couldn't dampen the spirits of Mt. Graham supporters after the third victory. Several days after the Day of Action it was learned that Larry Henson had retired from the Forest Service after the release of an investigation on his conduct as the southwest's Senior Forester. In late November, thirteen national, local, and grassroots environmental groups had banded together to demand Henson's resignation for various offenses, including creating hostle relations with the environmental community, allowing timber theft on public land, harassing agency biologists, and racism against the Apache people.

In early December Henson hired an independent investigator, Dr. Laurence Jahn, in early December to look into these allegations, and in March, Jahn gave his report to Jack Ward Thomas. Jahn's findings were never released to the public. A day after Tucson EF!ers hung a banner which read "Henson is a racist, Henson must go," Henson announced his retirement.

The sponsors of the International Day of Action for Mount Graham would like to thank all those who helped make it a huge success...THANK YOU! (and a big howl on top).

MSU Backs Out

BY JAY

Yee ha! We won, we won, we won! After about seven months of pressure from Native, environmental and social justice groups Michigan State University officially declared that they would not participate in the Mt. Graham International Observatory project. The announcement came on March 17, the day after environmental activists debated the project on the radio with an MSU astronomer and Peter Strittmatter. The announcement came right in time for green beer at the bars and we celebrated this victory for the wild. We soon turned our attentions to the Day of action at Pittsburgh. Members of Student Environmental Action Coalition (SEAC)-MSU and Red Cedar EF! joined in the campout and action with Allegheny EF! in Pittsburgh. This banner had a 5-foot angry squirrel head for an exclamation point, and all of us here in the great lake state would like to thank all those hard working Pitt folks who got high on markers to create such a master piece. We returned home to find out that Pitt had also dropped involvement with UA, which made the drive very worth while.

Currently Michigan is trying to get its act together, and hopes to have a rendezvous of some type soon along one of the lakes. We are also working with Chicano students in their attempts at getting MSU to join the United Farm Workers grape boycott. Along these same lines we hope to begin an active campaign against pesticide spraying on campus.

A big thanks to the EF!ers and SEACers out in Arizona for helping out with our fight here.

Six-Foot Squirrel Visits Portland

BY SLUGTHANG

About 50 Native Americans and Earth First! activists participated in the Portland Day of Outrage for Mt Graham. We targeted the Portland Archdiocese as our local access to the Vatican and were led by members of the Native American community in a prayer circle for the sacred site of Mt Graham.

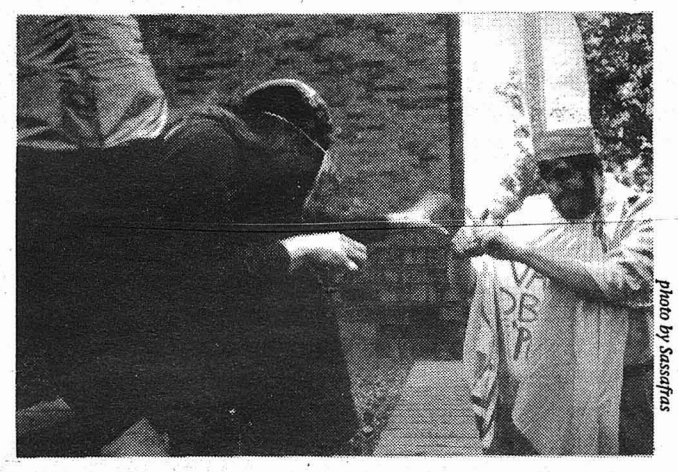


photo by Sassafras

The receptionist for the archdiocese was accosted but her only response was "I'll let the archbishop know you were here, he's out of town now." The Pope made a special guest appearance, mixing it up with the Mt. Graham Red Squirrel and a gaggle of aliens. Despite this minor disruption (and any rumors of accosted receptionists) our gathering was peaceful.

Our next stop was Forest Service (USFS) Region Six headquarters in downtown Portland. We slowly marched 40 blocks, over the Willamette River—not knowing that dozens of police in cruisers, on foot, horse and incognito were sweating out our arrival in great anticipation. The Portland police were on yellow alert for two hours before the marchers even arrived.

At USFS headquarters we had a fine time speaking to the gathering crowd while being photographed and filmed by the police and their lackeys. This time the Pope wasn't around to pester the Red Squirrel or baptize the aliens. Some of us loitered around the building afterward to keep the cops on their toes. We introduced Portlanders to the issue and received tremendous support from AIM and Willamette Valley Sacred Sites activists. USFS Region Six will never know what to expect from us, and someone had to pay for all that beefed-up security. The battle goes on, sometimes on the strangest ground.

Mt. Graham Victory

BY THE PITT PANTHERS

The long fight to save Mt. Graham is one step closer to being won. On April 5, after the largest gathering that the University of Pittsburgh's campus has ever seen, Pitt's Assistant to the Chancellor, Nancy White, announced that the University "is not involved in the Mount Graham Telescope Project, and I have no reason to believe it is considering investment." This came as incredible news to the students who have been fighting this battle for over two years.

Pitt's withdrawal of consideration came on the heels of a unanimous resolution passed by Pittsburgh City Council. The resolution stated their opposition to any investment by the university in this project and upheld the sacredness of the mountain to the San Carlos Apaches, as well as reaffirming the impact of the telescopes on the eighteen endangered species that make their home on Mt. Graham.

While the music of a local Pittsburgh band kept everybody dancing, banners were dropped by Allegheny Earth First!, boldly proclaiming some of the reasons Pitt would be wasting what little money they have. Banner slogans included "MONEY FOR EDUCATION NOT EXTINCTION" and "RESPECT APACHE CULTURE." One banner was over 75 feet long, and read simply, "STAY OFF MT. GRAHAM!" The banner caught a bit of a snag on the way down, but Mom Nature lent a helping hand in the form of a gust of wind to reveal the raging squirrel painted on the bottom.

Students from Ohio, Michigan, Toronto, New York, New Jersey, and all parts of Pennsylvania came to kick some dust into the lens on this International Day of Action. But the dissension was not only from the outside. Pitt professor Dennis Brutus was the keynote speaker. Invoking the spirit of Geronimo, he spoke out against the destruction of precious land, Pitt's disregard for Native people, and the greed of the upper class while the Earth suffers.

After Professor Brutus got the 1,000+ crowd worked into an (unbathed) lather, His Eminence the Pope officiated an unholy marriage between Pitt Chancellor J. Dennis O'Connor and UA President Manuel Pacheco. Needless to say, many objections to this union were expressed. The marriage was considered null when Chancellor O'Connor ripped off his Oxford-cloth shirt to reveal the green fist we have all come to know and love, and eloped with the red squirrel.

Surprisingly, we found enough energy to dance and rage through the day even after staying up all night drumming and networking with the other activists at an all-night campout/vigil on the lawn of the Cathedral of Learning (known to some as the Phallus of Carnal Knowledge). Attempts to shut down the gathering for not having an assembly permit proved fruitless when the University Police were reminded of that immortal roll of toilet paper, the US Constitution.

While a huge victory has been won in Pittsburgh, there is still much work left to be done before this sacred mountain is safe. So shine up your wrenches, and roll up your sleeves!

FAN Activists Attacked

continued from page 1

Just for good measure, the loggers also placed a huge log across the road about four kilometers further down leaving the media and anyone trying to resupply the site with a nice ten kilometer hike in. It stayed there for the duration of our blockades. (And somehow the police didn't seem to have a problem with the logging company blocking the road.) They also placed another log and some large rocks directly in front of the vehicles at our blockade.

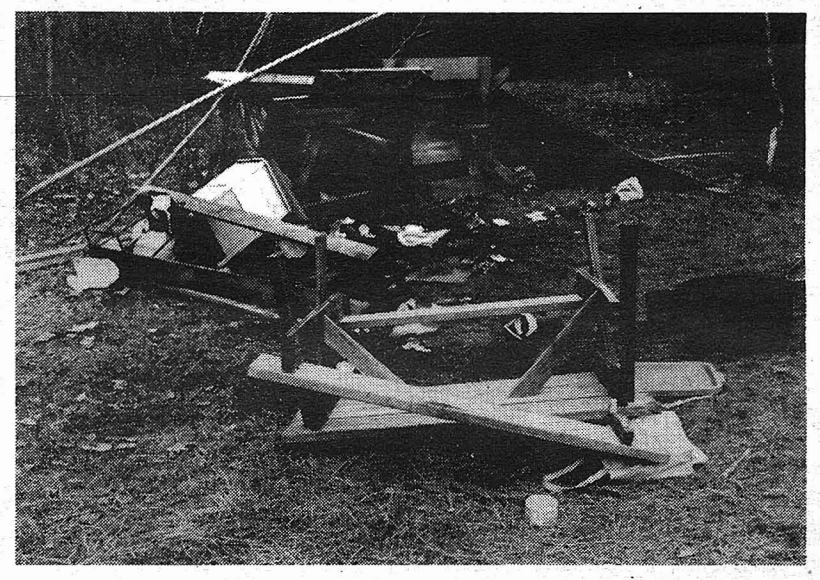
Camped at the blockade site, we soon discovered firsthand the toxic effects of the herbicides and pesticides regularly sprayed in the clearcut areas. Burning rashes appeared on people's bodies after brushing against plants and slash in the nearby clearcuts which had been recently sprayed with Vision (active ingredient glycophosphate) and Release (active ingredient triclopyr). Local natives have told us that the glycophosphate has caused alarming numbers of fungal infections on the deer they hunt, and there were stories of salmon hung out to dry which phosphoresced at night.

At 5:00 p.m. the next night, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) helicoptered in (at taxpayers' expense) to serve us with their 3-year-old court order. It forbade us from "directly or indirectly interfering with or encouraging or counseling others to interfere with" INTERFOR's logging operations in the Ure Creek Drainage Basin. The police gave us a deadline of 7 p.m. that night to clear out of the area, although the bridge was still dismantled and the logs were still blocking us in.

Things were pretty quiet the next day and we celebrated our success. But Thursday morning we were caught off guard and awakened at 5:30 a.m. to the unwelcome sound of, "RCMP, you're under arrest!" A team of 15 cops had arrived to enforce corporate control of the forests. They woke the seven FAN supporters sleeping at the camp, including an independent documentary film crew, and gave us half an hour to leave the area. The log and rocks directly in front of the vehicles were still preventing us from leaving.

Characteristic of the RCMP's behavior throughout the blockades, Sergeant Bruce Waite, the head of the local detachment, was overheard to say to one of his cop buddies, "This is really the kind of morning you want to start swinging your club, isn't it?" Waite was twice convicted of assaulting people held in his custody, and the RCMP paid the victims more than $20,000. But instead of punishment, Waite got a promotion to his present position, head of the detachment in an area with high racial tension and ongoing persecution of the native community for their continuing struggle to regain control of their land.

The police escorted the rest of us the 10 kilometers out to the highway under threat of arrest—leaving Shelagh alone, hanging 18 metres up, at their mercy. (Or so they thought. We actually had one secret support person who hid in the woods, evaded the police dogs and managed to videotape what went down.) The RCMP spent the rest of the day attempting to remove Shelagh from the tripod. First they attached a clamp to the rope from which her platform was suspended and untied the rope from the gate. Once the gate was open they called in a cherry picker to remove her from the tripod. The supporting braces which had been stabilizing Shelagh's tripod were cut away to allow INTERFOR vehicles to drive under the tripod.



Harold Pascal, the watchman of the Lil'Wat Nation, who is responsible under tribal law for protecting all Lil'Wat burial grounds, arrived at the site at 11:30 a.m. He had issued statements to the press the day before asserting that the blockade was not just an environmentalists' blockade, but was also supported by members of the Lil'Wat Nation and was a fundamental challenge to the jurisdiction of the BC courts over their sovereign lands.

Harold Pascal was one of the Lil'Wats arrested in 1991. At that time he had been so severely beaten by the police that his eyes were swollen shut for two days. He was held in custody for a week, and the police wouldn't release information on his whereabouts until much of the swelling and bruising had gone down. As soon as he arrived at the site of the FAN blockade he was arrested again, although this time the presence of cameras and white observers kept him from being beaten. By arresting him, the police were effectively declaring him a trespasser in his own ancestral homelands. As he was arrested he said: "I have to be here. I have no choice. This is my job."

To the extreme frustration of the RCMP, when the cherry-picker arrived it was too short to reach Shelagh. They were able to cut down all her equipment, food and water, including her platform, but Shelagh evaded them by climbing higher on the tripod. She dangled in her harness for several hours as police tried every trick in the book to get her down. They even sat by as an INTERFOR employee explained to her that he knew "at least five guys in Pemberton" who would happily come out and cut her down, so she was pretty "lucky" the RCMP were there. Shelagh bravely stuck it out alone until 6:30 p.m., long after the last press had left. She eventually agreed to come down on her own after negotiating the return of all her equipment and a promise that she would be released immediately and not be held in jail until her first court appearance.

Nothing we had faced so far in the action could have prepared us for the violence we were soon to face. We waited out the long holiday weekend and started getting ready to block them again when they went back to work. On Tuesday night, four of us paddled across the lake to do surveillance near the previous blockade site. It was the quickest way over to the site because INTERFOR was still being allowed to counter-blockade the road, even though the RCMP admitted to us that it was a public access road. We were discovered by security guards, who quickly called in a bunch of loggers to confront us. The loggers said that they were part of two hundred "coming in to beat the shit out us."

We took off into the woods, split up, and were chased. When the filmmaker, who was accompanying us, made his way back to the boats he met two big, angry loggers on the beach. They smashed all but one of the paddles in the canoe before he could jump into it and take off. The neanderthal thugs then started bashing our other boat, a kayak, and poured gasoline on it and set it on fire. The filmmaker managed to document this act of arson on video as he loon-called his way down the lake to try to rendezvous with the rest of us. We finally met up and managed to make our way back across the now-choppy lake in total darkness with our one remaining paddle in a badly overloaded canoe.

Arson was just the beginning. The next day we had another blockade set up, this time with Deryk Wynaus hanging 21 metres above the ground on a line which was tied off to a hydraulic excavator. The intention was to close off the road by immobilizing the machine, which had been left in the middle of the road. An effective tactic we thought, because to move the equipment would endanger Deryk's life. But this didn't seem to pose a problem for the INTERFOR workers. As soon as they arrived in the morning and discovered him they told him, "People like you are gonna die!" and promptly chopped his line with an ax. By sheer luck, his platform fell only about ten feet before catching and wedging in a tree. He managed to secure a safety line to the tree and hung there while the workers used the excavator to push over the trees supporting our beautiful 30-foot banner, which they then burned on the road.

The banner had been loaned to us by some of the Lil'Wat people who had used it during their more than 100-day blockade in 1990 in support of the people of Oka. It read: "To Mother Earth, the eye of the eagle watches you, the wing of the eagle shelters you, the claws of the eagle protect you, the children of the eagle preserve you." It featured a huge native eagle which had been hand-painted by Haida-Gwaai artist Bill Reid, one of Canada's best known artists.

Three of us arrived at the blockade site a short time later, having rowed two television crews across the lake to the new site. The RCMP arrived shortly after and attempted to force the media out of the area by threatening to arrest them under the same tired old court order. The Canadian Broadcasting Company's lawyers have since determined that this was an illegal use of the injunction, but that didn't stop the RCMP from arresting me when I dared to question its validity (the second blockade was at S&M Creek, a different watershed altogether from the one named in the injunction). Nor did the RCMP want to hear about the attack on Deryk. Their response was, "He knew he shouldn't have been there in the first place." Only after more violence was later aimed at us did the RCMP grudgingly accept our complaints. They claim to have begun investigations but they won't let us know what progress they're making. We're not holding our breath.

Adding insult to injury, when we returned to our vehicles we found that they, and those of the TV crews, had been seriously vandalized. Tires had been slashed, radiators punctured, windshields smashed, and something green had been poured into the gas tanks. Graffiti had been left behind accusing us of "holding children for ransom." We called to report the vandalism and while the police were at the site investigating, a blue pickup, driven by a logger we recognized from the blockade, drove into the parking area and took off again when he saw the cops. We got his license number, though. The same guy drove into our camp later that afternoon and slowly circled the camp, smirking, before driving out again. It was clearly a threat, meant to say, "We know where you are." We were camping on the Mount Currie reserve so we reported this harassment to the tribal police, who were enormously more sympathetic than the RCMP.

We decided it was getting too hot where we were staying so we packed up most of our gear that evening. Under the cover of darkness a rescue party went across the lake to bring Deryk out. Only two people were left in the camp when at 1:00 a.m., the blue pickup led a convoy of ten trucks and about 40 guys in an organized raid on our camp.

It was a scene straight out of a bad Ku Klux Klan movie. The two sleeping FAN supporters were assaulted and ordered to "get the hell out of town." Bright lights were shone in their eyes as masked and club-wielding maniacs dragged them from their tent and kicked and shoved them into their truck. The loggers then demol-

continued on the next page

EARTH NIGHT NEWS

Go out and do something for the earth... at night.

Equipment Wrenched on Mt.Graham

More than $20,000 in damage was caused when someone monkeywrenched a piece of heavy equipment owned by the University of Arizona at the Mount Graham Observatory site sometime in December.

According to a report filed with the Graham County Sheriff's Office, someone damaged a diesel loader by removing the valve cover and depositing grinding compound under it. A similar compound was placed in the transmission.

The loader and a snow blower are used to clear snow from the road to the telescope site.

A worker first noticed the problem with the machinery. The loader's engine lost compression while running. Upon further checking, the material was located under the valve cover. The snow blower also had the material and grease under its valve cover.

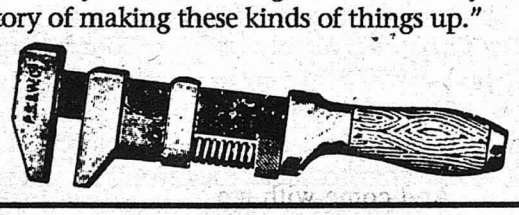
According to authorities, suspects include Earth Firstlers who were seen in the area in mid-December. The fact that the material was placed under the valve covers shows premeditation and planning in order to sabotage the equipment, according to the Sheriff's report.

"I'm not accusing (Earth First!) because there are several different groups that may have done this," said Sheriff Richard Mack. "There has been previous damage done such as throwing debris into culverts, digging up roads, and placing spikes, tacks and nails in the roadway. There are no suspects on that."

This is the first time this method has been used locally. So far there are no investigative leads in the case. University employees say the equipment will be placed near the telescope to secure it better in the future.

A spokesman for the Mount Graham Coalition called the incident a "stunt" pulled by the university.

"The university is not above pulling this kind of tactic," said Roger Featherstone. "I'm not convinced there is any kind of sabotage. The university has a history of making these kinds of things up."



A beaver knocked out power in two communities near Telluride for the second time in two months, a San Miguel Power Association official said Wednesday. The beaver cut down a tree and it fell on a power line near the San Miguel River, said Jim Grindle, district manager for the utility. "Our crew had a hell of a night, but they got her all put back up." Power was out for nine hours in Sawpit and Placerville, from Monday night to Tuesday morning.

Bulldozer With a Problem

G&H Tree Services reported that sand was poured into the gas tank of a bulldozer at a logging site on Gray Whale Ranch, near Santa Cruz, CA, during the week of March 7, causing $5,000 in damage.

Gray Whale Ranch is being considered for inclusion in Wilder Ranch State Park. Funds to buy the area are part of the California Parks and Wildlife Initiative, to be on the 1994 ballot. Idaho-based developer Ron Yanke wants to build 72 luxury houses on the site, which is home to many rare species. Legal challenges to the development have been denied, and Friends of Gray Whale Ranch have staged demonstrations [*see Yule* EF!J].

H-Q Power Line Dynamited

A chance observation in March by a Hydro-Quebec work crew led to the discovery of a transmission pylon severely damaged by explosives and a bundle of ten sticks of unexploded dynamite attached to another pylon.

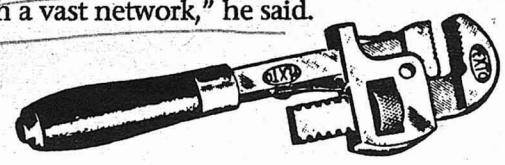
The explosion blew off one of the pylon's four feet and damaged another. H-Q spokesman Jean-Marie Pelletier said that if one of the pylons had fallen it could have caused a blackout affecting 174,000 customers served by the 230-kilovolt line running south to the US border. The damaged pylon will have to be replaced.

Both the police and H-Q were at a loss to explain the sabotage. They said no threats had been received and no one had called claiming responsibility for the damage. Pelletier said that so far there is nothing to link the incident to any of H-Q's ongoing environmental disputes. Police have not been able to pinpoint the timing of the explosion, saying it could have happened several weeks before it was discovered.

Pelletier said this is the first time in the history of the utility that someone has tried to blow up a pylon.

"We had no threats. We're totally in the dark," he said.

Pelletier acknowledged that it is impossible for the utility to ensure the protection of each of its thousands of power pylons spread across the province. "It's pointless to think of a surveillance system for such a vast network," he said.



Violence in BC

continued from the previous page

ished the camp, pulling everything into a heap and dousing it with gasoline they'd brought with them. Then they torched it, carrying on the theme they'd started with the kayak and the banner. They also made off with my tent, containing close to three thousand dollars worth of video equipment, as they smirked off into the night.

We called the tribal police and they responded immediately, managing to pull over one of the trucks as it tore away from the camp. They are investigating and hope to be able to press assault and theft charges. The RCMP were called as well, but their response to our frantic call was, "Let me take your number and I'll have an officer get back to you for details." Small comfort when 40 crazed men are trashing your camp with who knows what other violence in mind!

All this occurred in an area where a very strong anti-environmental group, the "Soo Coalition For Sustainable Forestry" formed just last summer to oppose the protection of spotted owl habitat. The executive director of the group just happens to be the contractor logging the area for INTERFOR where we were blockading. A "real" environmentalist (as the loggers love to call themselves), this guy has been personally convicted and fined for destroying fish habitat in his own back yard! The Soo Coalition is well known for its heavy-handed tactics. They like to initiate boycotts of local businesses perceived to be sympathetic to "tree-huggers." The area is also known to be a stronghold for white supremacists.

The anti-environmental movement has been created and funded by the corporations and FAN holds the corporations responsible for the growing atmosphere of violence and hostility between loggers and environmentalists in British Columbia. The "Share Our Forests" movement, adherents of Ron Arnold's "wise-use" philosophy, frequently import speakers from the US, who bring with them a violent and divisive brand of politics. Forest workers are encouraged to think of environmentalists as the enemy. They're indoctrinated to believe that we, in our "quasi-religious zealotry," are trying to take away not only their jobs, but their entire "way of life." (Of course they never stop to consider that the forest industry and their "way of life" are little over a century old, whereas the native people's way of life, which they're doing their best to destroy, stretches back many thousands of years.) After a decade of layoffs due to increased mechanization and overcutting, the forest industry is playing on its workers' fears about job security and using them to fuel the fires of hostility against us, the new enemy, the dreaded "preservationists." The corporations are using the workers to do their dirty work, turning a blind eye to the violence used to keep anyone else from having a say in the future of BC's last wilderness.

FAN and Terra Prima! need help. They are asking people experienced in meeting violence with non-violence to join them in support of the Earth and First Nation's sovereignty. Call FAN at (604) 251-2477 and Terra Prima! at (604) 383-1560 and let them know you're coming. Write FAN at Box 155, 1895 Commercial Dr., Vancouver, BC V5N 4A6 and Terra Prima! at the address listed in the directory.

Armed with Visions

Clear as cut glass
& just as dangerous

all rights reserved to the authors

Send poems to:
Warrior Poets Society
Bancroft & Telegraph
ASUC Box 361
Berkeley, CA 94720-1111

I long to leave this world behind
not through death
just by choice.
Join the thousands of lost souls
trying to avoid the society
that they were sent to die for.
They served their time
they earned their right to disappear
behind the Redwood Curtain.
Theirs seems a simpler world
beckoning to me
to join their quiet, peaceful army
not one of guns and death
but one of solitude and forgetfulness.
I dream of joining them
in their misty jungles
among the trees as old as life.
All I need is food and water to sustain me
and a tin roof to keep me dry
when God cries for them
but I know deep inside
that they would reject me
as society rejected them.
I am not welcome among their anguished ranks.
As we banished them to live in exile
among the Giants,
they banish me to live in acceptance
among mere men.
Men who will never reach the heights
that the Redwoods have achieved.
Men who will forever wallow
in the shallows of Success, Greed, and Power.
The same financial cannibals who send young men
to die in far-off lands
sentence me to serve my life
festering in technological escalation
of life's private wars.
I have come to envy the banished.

Bad Dogma!
Stumptown USA

READING

In the forest clothes are useless.
A shadow is on my breasts.
In the forest moss footprints
spring up again like song
trees spear into the light, slicing
catch a cirrus cloud & fling
a wind blows through my body warm
and scars streak back like rain

In the forest talk is useless.
But still I babble Blake at the warm dust,
the orange husks of pine
& the lichen listens,
the rocks aren't going anywhere.

Dawn Macdonald

RUNNING COYOTE

Coyote knows where the far trails hide,
He runs through the sage where the skies are wide.
How would it be to run with him
When the moon is low and the stars are dim?
He goes where he will, he is not like me.
I know what he is I never can be;
Coyote is free.

His belly is hard, his sinews are tough;
He owns the sweet earth and that is enough.
He mates for his young, kills only for food;
His code is so simple, so honest and good.
What is this progress that man has claimed?
I would be rid of all I have gained
If I were not chained.

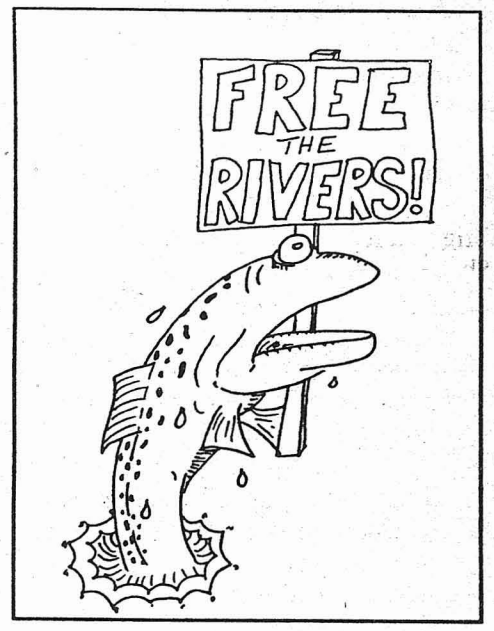
He is fair with his own; his cunning he saves
To deal with his killers, the fools and the knaves
Who seek to destroy him by their vicious ends
Without wit to know they are losing a friend.
But when man has earned what his evil will bring
And is an extinct and forgotten thing,
Coyote will sing.

Jon Colter 1975

In The City

Opening crowded apartment shades
Upon a hovering crow,
A clattering squirrel
A muddy wave of pigeons
Each window a jack-in-the-box
Poor men's postcard
Of the great outdoors.
Crow patrols fresh alley garbage by day
Roams to the suburbs for a good place to sleep.
The squirrel is tough as nails
On a tenacious diet.
So many more clumsy interlopers,
Rock Doves, adrift with a swollen nest.
Go home to a growing scar in soil, water
and air.
It's hard to like many people
When you love the earth.
Most people know more about heaven
Than about the land they live on.
If heaven exists, perhaps I'll miss something keen
But if it doesn't
Many are missing the greatest delight
Right now.
Listen to a loon record.

Jenny McBride



RAPTURE

Come away
With me
To the real world.

To the wind
Sighing for love
Of the red-tailed hawk.
To the tall fir
Reaching unrequited
For a luminous moon.
To the marsh grasses
Softly rippling
To the ocean's pulse.

Come with me
To the forest's heart
Where the green tapestry
Starred with jewelled birds
And fragrant flowers
Enters the blood
And calls you home.

And come with me
To the black pond's night
To the pulsing voice
Of a thousand dark, silk frogs
Singing a latticework skyward.

And stay with me
When high summer
Enfolds the Earth
In passion's heat
And the earthblood runs swift
And urgent
And life is the message,
The meaning
And all that has ever mattered
Or will ever matter.

Mary de La Valette

Dear Shit fer Brains

continued from page 3

ing public movement, with the wrenchers wearing a different mask; and that may turn out to be a wise distinction. But I sense they got a quicker start on that. After years of publicly espousing sabotage, we've got one hell of a whitewash job cut out for us if we're going to shuck that image. Plus, a lot of Earth Firstlers just won't go for it. And it only takes a few bad apples.

Also, there might be some value in continuing as is. To the extent that we bow to mainstream morals in deciding what we're willing to admit to, we allow the status quo to define the terms of the debate. Must monkeywrenching be banished to clandestine whispers among paranoid revolutionaries? Many people would not have, and will not hear about or consider monkeywrenching except that we sound off about it. I see another benefit to being noisy about sabotage. Any plant or infiltrator, looking at a mob singing "Burn That Dozer," is going to have a tough time distinguishing the debutantes and tourists from the real wrenchers. It is a kind of camouflage, even as it appears to be just a "boy scout panty raid."

I don't mean to overlook the very real threat of retaliation that such a posture entails. Judi Bari can tell you about that. But if you can't take the pressure of being in a movement that advocates monkeywrenching, perhaps you should move on. I say this with some trepidation. I fear that Judi will leave, and I want her to stay with us. But tell me one thing, Judi. You joined a movement that advocates monkeywrenching, and it has done so all this time. When, and where, did you think that was going to change?

I have a question for both Mike and Judi: whence all this concern about the public image of Earth First!? Doubtless both of them have spent much more time doing outreach and PR and media than I have. They have both accomplished much in this arena; and they both have my respect and admiration (maybe even a foot massage, if they ask nicely). So it seems likely that they would be more sensitive about this shit than me. But, to say the same thing in a less charitable way, it looks like they're guarding their own chosen turf within the movement. This especially applies to Judi. I have no desire to trivialize what you have suffered, sister; but are you asking us to change the tone of our movement to make your job easier? What I know for certain is that, in the absolutely unlikely event that I should find myself out in the backcountry dodging feds, the Public Image of Earth First! is going to be remarkably low on my list of priorities. Comprende? I want to know who asked either of you to be the caretaker of the public image of this nebulous, chaotic movement. Both of you might want to step down or lighten up. Better yet, both.

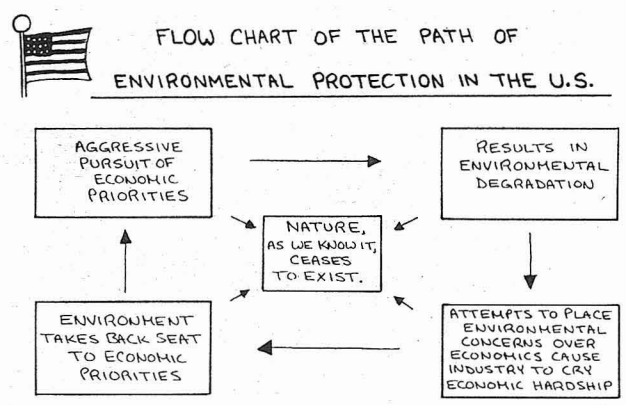
Love,

—Matthew Haun

EF!ers,

We write to all of you with a heavy heart to address an issue which concerns us deeply, the trashing of eco-activists by other activists. We live in a world where it is easier to destroy than it is to effect real positive change. "Easier" is a dynamic best used judiciously.

Beyond acknowledging that none of us is perfect, no one person speaks for us, everyone has made mistakes, etc., what more should be said? The wise use movement is constantly criticizing deep ecology and wilderness advocates. In many ways their criticism empowers us, but the reverse is true when we attack each other. It's disempowering. As Robert Hoyt so eloquently stated it in his song, Good Americans, "When we fight among ourselves, it really makes their day." Maybe those with a talent for fault finding could join the wise use movement and put their talent to good use. Let's concentrate our efforts on outreach, coalition building and direct actions, allowing criticism to come from the wise users and FBI infiltrators.


FLOW CHART OF THE PATH OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IN THE U.S.
AGGRESSIVE PURSUIT OF ECONOMIC PRIORITIES
RESULTS IN ENVIRONMEUTAL DEGRADATION
NATURE, AS WE KNOW IT, CEASES TO EXIST.
ENVIRONMENT TAKES BACK SEAT TO ECONOMIC PRIORITIES
ATTEMPTS TO PLACE ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS OVER ECONOMICS CAUSE INDUSTRY TO CRY ECONOMIC HARDSHIP
MAHO

We are all individuals working within a larger whole; striving to be effective, individually and collectively. We ask all of you to think carefully before putting pen to paper; speaking to the press or in public. Let bygones be bygones, replace anger with compassion for other activists (avoid those you can't work with effectively), put your energies into your work and most importantly prioritize your actions and criticisms.

We began by telling you that we were writing this with a heavy heart. Any chance we may have in averting the biological collapse looming on the horizon, we see evaporating in the heated arguments and name calling between us, the Warriors of the Rainbow.

Remember, as one wise old bird counseled us, "It's not the can, it's the road."

Life, Connection, Change.

—Traci and Dennis
Stump Creek, IN

Dear Shit For Brains,

Why is it that when a monkeywrenching action occurs, and news of that action is sent to the *Journal*, the information is not printed or mentioned in any way? Some machinery on Mt. Graham was destroyed by our brother and sister warriors several months ago, and the information (a news clipping) was sent via fax to the *Journal* office. This is what happened:

The fax was received by John Green who deemed it to be a) unreadable because of the fax machine and b) not important. When I asked other *Journal* staffers if they had heard about the action, none had because, contrary to *Journal* policy, J.G. simply tossed the article aside without showing it to anyone. After the other staffers asked him about it, the article was found, and though "unreadable due to fax problems," was read.

Next came the excuses not to print the information. Everybody's favorite: "It came in too late." A very lame excuse especially since the other info faxed along with the monkeywrenching stuff made it in. The fact that is that "it's too late" was only because J.G. tossed it aside and forgot about it. Next excuse is the standard: "There's no room." Even though there were still two pages to be laid out because they had not received some other article. My personal favorite went something like this: "Well, we could put it here on this page but it doesn't really go with anything else." Remember, if the *Journal* isn't stylish, then the movement isn't stylish. And if we're not stylish, then the earth doesn't look good. We do want everything to fit together so nicely now, don't we? The most important thing is that we look good!

The excuse that really got to me was this: "Well, some people don't think that monkeywrenching action reports belong in the *Journal*." Excuse me? Who are these "some People" and why do they wield such power and control over the *Journal* staff? At what meeting/conference/rendezvous was it decided not to print monkeywrenching news? How do you justify advertising and selling *Ecodefense* when you take that position? I'm not suggesting you print an article encouraging anyone to do anything, all I'm asking is to have the facts of the action printed. Gosh, it feels like old times again with a *Journal* staff censoring information, except this time we don't have ol' Davey to kick around. In fact, he gets to profit from *Ecodefense* sales while our brave warrior brothers and sisters are left feeling isolated and unacknowledged.

Is the sad but true situation really that Earth First! is not only turning into a society of banner hangers, but its *Journal* is also not going to recognize anything more than these safe actions? Some say the *Journal* reflects the movement. I say the *Journal* reflects the opinions of a minority who practice censorship. Still. After all these years. How sad.

—Freebird

Editor's reply: "Freebird" may have spent some time here, but obviously not nearly enough to grasp the way the Journal *really works.*

Last issue, four days after deadline, a Tucson EF!er called us to ask that we save space for a late-breaking story—the UofA clock tower occupation (another banner-hanging). We said of course we could include it—any activist who has dealt with this staff (as Freebird obviously hasn't) knows we will do this.

When we received the fax on the UofA tower story, the wrenching item was with it. I neither personally received the fax, nor did I "toss it aside."

We have to take our cue from the local groups—this is what we consider being responsive to the movement. The person I talked to in Tucson never mentioned the wrenching (which had occurred nearly two months before), much less asked us to include it. The item was almost two months old, and we were on the second issue of the Journal *since the monkeywrenching happened. We interpreted this to mean that the Tucson group did not consider the story to be as important as the clock tower article. This, combined with the fact that it came in after deadline, and that parts of the fax were completely unreadable (we asked them to fax it again—it didn't help) led the staff to consider the item to be a low priority (the story is on page 28 of this issue). Apparently we made this decision while Freebird was not overseeing us.*

We do consider style in publishing the Journal. *Freebird may not have to worry about such pedestrian concerns with his lofty ideals, but we do. But until now we have not gotten a single complaint that the* Journal *emphasizes style over substance. Not one. Freebird is quite the pioneer in this regard. Perhaps he would be happier if we put out a xeroxed wall of text, but most of our other subscribers probably would not, and the* Journal *would soon die.*

As to the statement that the Journal *does not print articles on monkeywrenching actions: anyone who has read the* Journal *at all, from long before it moved to Eugene right up to the present knows that this assertion is totally idiotic. Every single issue in the last year has had stories on monkeywrenching actions, techniques, the strategy of wrenching as it affects CD campaigns, etc. That Freebird makes this statement at all tells me that he does not even read the paper.*

In deciding whether to print an article, we have to consider it together with all the other stuff we receive. As should be obvious even to Freebird, we cannot print everything—we simply do not have space. With monkeywrenching items, as with everything else, we have to make editorial decisions. We do not include every wrenching story we get; every item about the spray painting of a butcher shop's windows does not get printed. If you consider this to be censorship, then you are confused, or more likely ignorant of the way the Journal *functions. The main reason there are not more wrenching stories in the paper is that we do not receive very many. We are very much dependent on people submitting news items to us, and cannot know about actions unless someone tells us about them. Perhaps Freebird could better use his time collecting and submitting monkeywrenching stories than writing inaccurate, whining letters about problems which do not exist.*

If (as Freebird seems to imply) our brave warrior brothers and sisters monkeywrench to get acknowledgment or break their sense of isolation (and I don't think they do), they are monkeywrenching for the wrong reasons.

And if you are going to complain about the Journal, *at least read the paper before you do.*

—J.G.

EF,

Please stop calling tree farms forests.

Make a distinction between forests and tree farms, lake and impoundment, river and canal, grassland and pasture, meadow and field.

Sustainable forestry is tree farming. What is the difference between a forest and a tree farm? You won't find me in a tree farm.

Thank you.

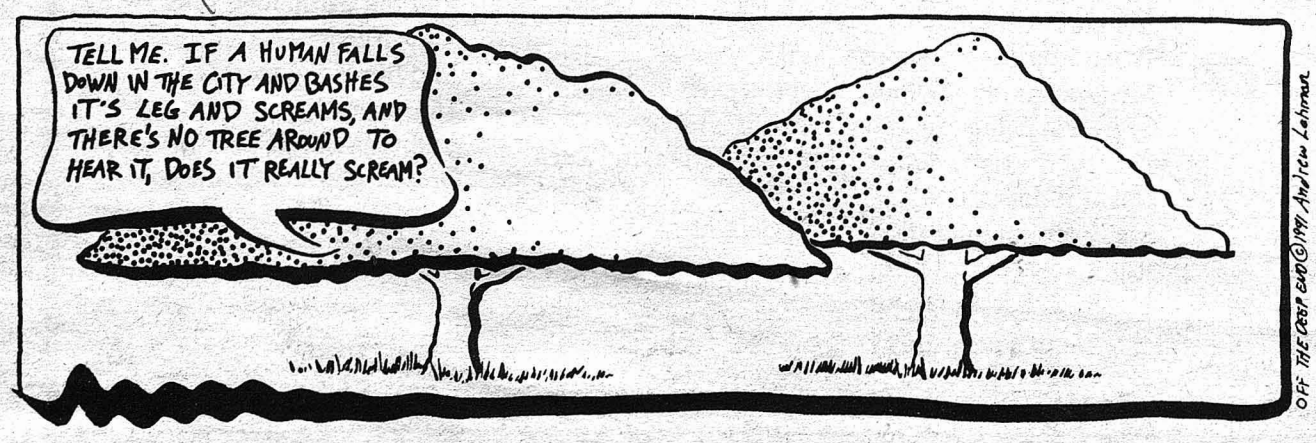
—Green Man

Dear Shitty One:

Enclosed is my money order for $500 US. Greetings from the Northland. I think a rag like yours needs to be promulgated. Voices howling at demons at the critical threshold of time need to be heard and sustained. Words become action. "What is" has lead our species and world to the brink of extinction. It's time for a radical alteration in course.

I figure there are many more who are willing to give to Easter Seals than to your rag. That's why I'm not giving to Easter Seals. On the second thought, I like Easter Seals, too.

Coming out, or outing, is probably not advisable for many gays, nor perhaps for


TELL ME. IF A HUMAN FALLS DOWN IN THE CITY AND BASHES IT'S LEG AND SCREAMS, AND THERE'S NO TREE AROUND TO HEAR IT, DOES IT REALLY SCREAM?
OFF THE DEEP END © 1991 Andrew Lehman

Letters and More Letters

many Earth First!er symps. I would have to include myself. Therefore, you can sign me...

—Deep Throat
Victoria, BC

Dear you-know-what for brains:

When I received my Eostar issue of the *Journal*, I sat down with a pot of herbal tea and eagerly opened the pages, as is my habit when your fine publication graces my mailbox. After reading a few articles, I just couldn't restrain my curiosity to see how you laid out my column, Dear Miss Demeanor.

Oh dear, dear, I thought, when I saw that you had deleted the subtitle, "Advice for the Ecologically Confused." I understand the constraints of space, but how will new readers know the theme of the column? Knowing your good intentions, I realized that this really was a minor issue in the scheme of things. Were this the only transgression, I never would have written this letter.

Were that it were so! Imagine my surprise when I read my reply to the plea for help signed Miserable in Missoula—the lead sentence was nothing I had ever written.

Miserable in Missoula concluded the letter complaining about downhill ski areas by saying, "I just can't help feel that a clearcut is a clearcut." My original reply began, "And right you are, dearie!" And so I was aghast when I read the lead sentence in the paper: "And you are miserable, dearie!"

There it was for thousands of readers to see, a condescending statement I *never* would have addressed to this troubled individual. This just wouldn't do.

Well, the right thing to do was obviously to apologize to Miserable in Missoula—my challenge was to determine this anonymous writer's identity. I canceled all my upcoming social engagements and traveled as soon as I could to Montana.

Fortunately, the fine Earth First!ers in Missoula welcomed me warmly, tempering their intoxication with various substances enough to answer my inquiries about where to look for Miserable. They had a hunch he was the individual who had recently turned up at the Ecology Center to get involved, as I had suggested in my column.

I attended a gathering of local Earth First!ers, and my good friend Billbob, always the diplomat, pointed out the British gentleman quietly weeping into his beer in the corner of the room. Oh so discreetly I moved to the man's side and inquired about the source of his sorrow.

"I'm just miserable," he replied. *Aha!* I had found him at last.

We had a lovely chat. No sooner did I apologize than he noticeably perked up. The last I heard, he was in the thick of radical environmentalism.

I was fortunate that this kind man was able to mend his self-esteem so easily. And what if my friends at home had been less gracious about my sudden departure to Montana? Truly my turning my life topsy-turvy was worth it, but goodness me, this is not the best use of my time when I should be smashing the state.

So, dear editors, being a forgiving soul, I don't hold a grudge. I hope this gentle message will avoid further problems. Gaia knows you bust your buttocks to publish the paper on a shoestring.

I look forward to receiving your next exciting issue!

For Mother Earth,

—Miss Demeanor

Good People of Earth First!;

This letter reaches out to you from the maximum security prison at Pelican Bay in northernmost California. I am a prisoner here.

I am a 46-year-old man who has been active in environmental and animal rights for most of my life. I don't eat meat and I support most radical efforts to save our earth.

Since Earth First! is the first publication to echo so many of my personal convictions, I write to you in the hope I can find support in my hour of need. I have lost touch with friends and family, and I have become lonely here in the belly of the beast. I am a non-violent person, living in a very violent world... and I could sure use some words from people who would care enough to write.

If anyone is out there who'd like to send a much needed "mail hug," here's my address.

—W. Cody Lassell D71733
PO Box 7500 B4-111
Crescent City, CA 95531

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Mahsi-Cho (thank you in the Gwich'in language) for picking up the "ANWR fight not over/need help now!) message and printing it in the March 20 edition of "EARTH FIRST!"

Most folks think that because the Arctic title was struck from the Johnston/Wallop National Energy Insecurity Act of 1991 that the fight is over. Not true, the oilies are back with their blood money.

No compromise on this one folks. Limited development is like being a little bit pregnant. We will fight as hard as we can in the congress. If we lose there we'll fight as hard as we can in the courts, and if we lose there, won't you please join me on the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska.

Yours in Unity,

—Lenny Kohm

Dear Sirs:

I recently wrote a letter to Buzzworm Magazine about an article concerning the Wise Use Movement. I was so upset by their radical tactics that I had to speak out and thus I created an organization dedicated to exposing and defeating the Wise Use Movement at every turn. It's a grassroots group called Citizens Against Wise Use Movement or CAWUM.

After I wrote this letter, I received a number of responses across the country who believe my ideas and want to support my cause. Since I'm relatively new at this and didn't expect this support, I'm looking to you for insight and advice on where to go from here. I am sending this same letter to 15 other groups for their help as well. Please send your information as soon as possible and if any persons are interested in my group, please send their remarks to:

CAWUM
9449 N. Pheasant Lane
Milwaukee, WI 53217

Sincerely,

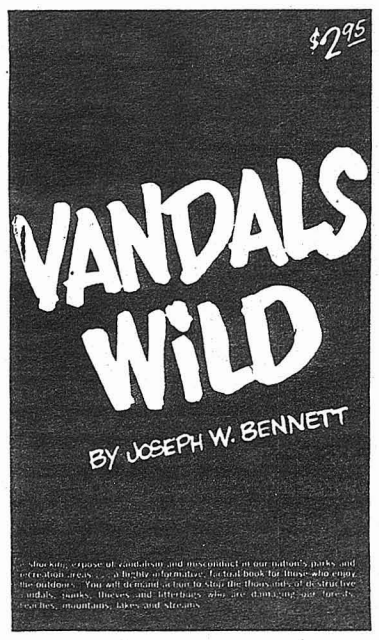
—Bill Hohmann

Dear Hellraisers,

Let's start off by considering that just over 50% of the population now lives in the 30 largest US metropolitan areas. These urbanites and their political opinions taken as a whole are probably a key factor in determining what policies and what laws ultimately get enforced. This is enough regional democracy in national government that the attitudes of urban dwellers controls our wilderness policy, despite opposition from western Senators. In the western states, tourism and a flood of urban refugees into the Rockies is replacing extractive industries as a source of wealth and creating strong new money pressures for preservation.

Given that most urban dwellers don't have any good reason not to be environmentally sympathetic, and given that many scientists are becoming alarmed, the politics tends to favor stronger environmental protections, even among comfortable suburban Sierra Clubbers. However, with wilderness issues, there is not a strong pocketbook link to generate a strong consensus as there is with gasoline costs or the cost of cable TV, where Congress acts quickly. Environmentalism is the type of cause that we can expect to attract broad support, but not both broad and deep support. The basis of broad class support for environmental issues is that all classes suffer to some degree.

I argue that the amount of timber saved by direct actions per se is probably small by any reasonable calculation in comparison with the final impact of such actions as reflected in political opinion. Direct action is first reflected in the media as political symbolism, later filters down as public opinion, and finally evolves into federal wilderness policy.



For an organization to be full of talented media sluts makes a whole lot of sense in this context. EF! is good, often brilliantly good, at show biz. However, if you're flashy enough to grab headlines, the coverage will soon be simplified to illustrate an example of either good or evil. On the tube, environmentalists with strong opinions are going to get portrayed either as longhair idealists protecting Momma Nature or as obsessed Charles Manson terrorist types, without too many intervening shades of gray to confuse the viewer. Under these conditions, you can't base your political career on even talking about fucking shit up very long without being successfully typecast as terrorists. In the past when EF! was a little blip on the radar screen of media coverage, it was possible to get away with a lot more than now, when we have the feds and media reamed up, poised to seize any opportunity to discredit EF!.

To me, the best path forward is for EF! to keep the moral high ground, to cultivate a romantic idealist image along the lines of the civil rights movement of the 1960's with policies based on militancy, on civil disobedience, and on those seemingly reasonable or symbolic infractions of law that are hard for the media to inflate and discredit. In other words, to consciously stick to with policy that is already the bread and butter of EF! anyhow, and which continues to achieve considerable political success, if reflected only in the numbers of EF!ers hanging in there, despite problems. Sound political policy is so important to successful organization that these sort of issues deserve a lot of discussion. It is particularly important to hammer out some sort of ground rules when you have a bunch of autonomous groups scattered all over the US doing their own thing under one banner.

I realize I haven't said anything that is terribly original up to this point, but I would like to end up by pointing out that there are many key environmental issues in metropolitan areas where the ultimately decisive number of people reside. One of the ways "class" struggles get played out in the Austin area is through environmental issues, and I suspect this is increasingly true elsewhere. I see environmental referendums forced onto the ballot against the interests of real estate tycoons. I see the interaction of a spectrum of environmental groups that includes the Sierra Club, through EF! civil disobedience, etc. Suburban nimbies and conservative middle class taxpayers worried about the tax impact of developer bailouts are often strategic allies on united front issues.

I don't believe Austin, Texas is exceptional, except in the number of activists who participate. Everywhere capital operates freely, it builds rings of suburban sprawl accompanied by economic and environmental devastation. In many cities, patterns of class conflict are surfacing as a side effect of urban sprawl, the political grip of a constellation of automobile-related interests, and land development profiteering. Meanwhile, local examples of environmental racism (arguably types of class discrimination) are becoming strong issues in Austin.

Urban environmental activism has certain built-in advantages over work in more remote areas. Whenever urban residents hear of local activism based on money-related environmental issues they can sympathize with in their own everyday life and urban context, they become more inclined to support related actions centered in the forests. Lets work together to strengthen these important links.

Yours,

—Roger Baker

Dear Mr. Brains:

The purpose of this letter is to vent my never-ending frustration with corporate greed. I have recently been flooding the health insurance industry's 800 number from their stupid TV commercials with entertaining (to me anyway) phone calls. They have had the pleasure of hearing on their answering service: belching, toilets flushing, expletives galore, Pearl Jam really loud, or complete silence. I've probably called close to a 100 times now. While the health insurance industry isn't directly responsible for Earth-raping, they are nevertheless part of the machine, and I'll take my shots whenever I can. Anyone else who is offended by their blatant greed-mongering commercials can call them at (800) 285-HEALTH (I don't know what the two extra digits are for, but it works when you call this number). Let them know how you feel, or don't say anything while holding the line, costing them money until their stupid little message is over. Call repeatedly, and always use pay phones.

—Corrosion of Conformity

BEAR HUNTERS
4 HOURS, 129 MILES, AND 16 BEERS LATER...
ONE MORE BEAR AND WE'LL BE ABLE TO FILL THAT ORDER FOR MR. LING!
BEER?
BEEP BEEP
THEESH IS IT! HAND ME MY SH-SH SHOTGUN... GODDAMNIT...
AH, JUSH WANNA BLAST A FEW CHIPMUNKS TA WARM UP... HEH...
ARG!
A POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS SITUATION DEFUSED, OUR MAN IS DOWN, BUT NOT OUT!

Support for NREPA Continues to Grow

Sponsorship of the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act, HR 2638, has grown to 58 members of the US House of Representatives, including twenty-five who chair House committees or subcommittees. On April 12, the House National Parks, Forests and Public Lands Subcommittee, chaired by Rep. Bruce Vento (D-MN) held a hearing on this first ever bioregional public lands bill. The subcommittee heard testimony from bill sponsor Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-NY), Chief Floyd Heavy Runner of the Blackfeet Crazy Dogs Society, grizzly bear biologist Derek Craighead, Alliance for the Wild Rockies (AWR) Board member Carole King, and Sierra Club public lands director Debbie Sease. In an interesting twist, no representatives of industry testified.

There were several heated exchanges during the hearing. Rep. Craig Thomas (R-WY) grilled Maloney about water rights and ecosystems, while Rep. Pat Williams (D-MT) shouted that she should worry about the Adirondacks. He repeatedly vented his anger at the full-page New York Times ad run by AWR and other groups opposing his wilderness bill. He said NREPA is bad policy and would lock up too many mining claims. Rep. Larry LaRocco (R-ID) said it would prevent 220 timber sales planned for Idaho roadless areas in the next five years.

One of the surprises at the hearing was the negative testimony from the Montana Wilderness Association. They endorsed the Williams bill, while attacking NREPA. They falsely claimed that the maps for NREPA are 16 years out of date, and said its wilderness designations contain gravel pits, downhill ski areas, mines, clearcuts, and roads. This sabotage, designed to undermine the credibility of NREPA, appeared to have been rehearsed. But their negative approach was overwhelmed by testimony from pro-NREPA witnesses.

Maloney made a strong statement about the need for NREPA. She defended her right to sponsor the bill and said part of the reason was that she didn't like the idea of people being bullied and threatened into not introducing the bill.

Carole King spoke eloquently on behalf of the bill and entered into the record a summary of a Forest Service public opinion survey in the northern Rockies that found over two-thirds of the public in favor of more wilderness, absolutely no logging or roadbuilding in roadless areas, less roads, less motorized recreation and more attention to wildlife and endangered species. Derek Craighead spoke of the habitat needs of the grizzly bear and quoted from a letter to Congress from more than 50 top scientists and resource managers strongly supporting NREPA. Floyd Heavy Runner spoke briefly yet powerfully for NREPA and its protection for native cultures. He shocked Rep. Williams with the news that the Blackfeet tribal council had rescinded their endorsement of Williams' bill. Debbie Sease said the Sierra Club "strongly and enthusiastically endorses NREPA." She praised the strong scientific and economic foundation of the bill.

NREPA detractors could bring up nothing very substantive, relying instead on props and attacks against AWR. The Forest Service and Interior Department testified in opposition to the bill, even though they hadn't studied it.

The hearing was the second critical step towards eventual passage of NREPA, and very positive progress. A joint hearing will be held in May by the Agriculture and Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committees. Co-sponsorship continues to grow and there is no more talk of the bill being "dead on arrival." Support is growing nationally, and with a lot of hard work this bill can eventually become law.

Williams Bill Heads For House Floor

On March 23, the House Natural Resources Committee passed Rep Williams' Montana "Wilderness" Act, sending the bill to the floor of the House for a vote as early as mid-April. The bill designates about 1.7 million acres as wilderness (mostly high elevation "rock and ice"), but would release over four million acres of inventoried and non-inventoried roadless lands for development. The bill contains an "Ecosystem Study" for the northern Rockies, defined only as federal lands in the state of Montana. It provides no interim protection for these lands during the study, which is to be coordinated by the Clinton Administration. The bill contains some "special management" areas, which allow logging, and it reserves no federal water rights for wilderness areas. Livestock grazing is allowed in all the areas designated by the bill, including wilderness areas.

Apparently some committee members didn't even know what they were voting on. After the markup, one Congresswoman was heard to ask her aide, "What is release language?"

Sources in Washington say that Williams insisted that release language be included in the bill, and his recent statements make it clear that this bill is a virtual wish list for the timber and mining industries.

"I have accommodated the mining companies every single time they have come to us," Williams said recently. "With no exceptions." He said his bill could be a "boon" for mining companies. He has also stated, "This bill won't cost a single Montana job. Timber industry jobs in Montana are going down the drain in part because we can't get a wilderness bill passed."

Call Rep. George Miller, Chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee at (202) 225-2095; or at the Natural Resources Committee office (202) 225-2761. Urge him to lead the defeat of the Williams and LaRocco bills in his committee. If we continue to put the pressure on, we can save these forests and put an end to Congressionally mandated sacrifice zones! Please get the word out—time is short.

For more information call the Alliance for the Wild Rockies at (406) 721-5420, fax (406) 721-9917, email: awr @igc.apc.org

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Clueless Bill's Extinction Plan

continued from page 3

Wrong. Virtually all the construction jobs inherent in these projects go to big-city firms. There are already numerous empty industrial parks all over the northwest—financed by lottery funds. Of course, this begs the question of why, if the timber barons have been such good masters for these communities all along, isn't there a suitable infrastructure already in place?

And now the commercial fishing industry that has been hard hit by logging's destruction of fish habitat also wants in on the transition funds. Hey, do you suppose they can build industrial parks on reefs?

Movement Maneuvers

As has been the case, the forest movement is divided on how to respond. Some from the national groups praised Option 9 from the beginning. Others see it as flawed and have sought to "improve" it. And, as in the case of last fall's Deal of Shame, some (led by SCLDF) bray that "we're too weeeak" to challenge the plan and should accept it as the best we can get. Since, if we protest too successfully, that gives Hatfield et al the cover they need to pass sufficiency. (Give in to blackmail once and...)

Considerable time and energy has been put into proposals to bring the grassroots and nationals into a coalition to work to change the timber paradigm. It all seems, however, to just throw more light on the historical splits. At the same time they endorse a no-entry into roadless areas position, the Sierra Club, in their inside-the-Beltway wisdom, can support the Williams Montana Wilderness (Destruction) Bill.

The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) recently leaned heavily on Alaska activists not to file ESA petitions, citing, once again, the sufficiency bogeyman—some threat, given that Senator Ted Stevens already has succeeded in exempting Alaska from new fish habitat management rules (PACFISH). NRDC was even given $40,000 to facilitate the very listing they suppressed! NRDC's head also recently crowed that "we broke the back of green opposition to NAFTA." With friends like these...

Light at the End of the Clearcut

But there's been a dramatic rise in support for the Zero Cut option. At virtually all recent gatherings of forest activists, Zero Cut (as espoused by the Native Forest Council) gets around 75 percent support. Unfortunately, that doesn't meet the lofty heights of lowest common denominator consensus. So to accommodate the 25 percent not-ready-for-zero-cut players in the attempts to join the nationals and grassroots, roundabout efforts to reform the agencies and shift the burden of proof are the common rallying points. If truly implemented, such reforms would amount to Zero Cut—the old, if it looks, walks and quacks like a duck, etc.

In contrast to the nationals' unwillingness to risk "sufficiency" (and whatever else motivates them), the Native Forest Council and some of the usual renegades will be among those who will mount a legal challenge to Option 9. If successful, another injunction will be put in place and the agencies told to go back and do it right. If the courts decide that killing off half of a threatened species is a satisfactory "recovery plan," well...

The Real Deal

Last fall I wrote, "rumor has it that Weyerhaeuser, the national groups, the foundations and Clinton cut a deal. The deal would have the timber industry fume about the lower federal cut. The final EIS would then be modified with a higher cut level. The national groups scream loud and clear and threaten suit. Which leads to the final being Option 9. All sides than claim a bitter compromise" [*See Samhain, 1993, EF!*].

Interestingly enough, the day after SCLDF abandoned the injunction (fulfilling the nationals' end of the Faustian bargain), Weyerhaeuser CEO Jack Creighton went public, stating, "We support Option 9 and whatever means it takes to achieve it."

Why, one might ask? Well, the administration exempted Weyerhaeuser lands from Rule 40, which requires a 70-acre no-cut circle to be left around any owl sites on private lands. So Weyerhaeuser can cut away on the land they paid an average $6 per acre for while smaller private owners who paid up to $1000 per acre are required to bear the burden of habitat protection.

Clever indeed. The national groups maintain their vaunted "access" with the administration. The small owners are left to take their anger out on local activists. Weyerhaeuser continues to liquidate and export its holdings, laughing all the way to the bank as their competitors are driven under.

President Bubba learned his lesson way back in 1980. In his first term as Arkansas Governor he had taken on Weyerhaeuser over clearcutting in the Ozarks, and the big chicken farmers who were fouling (fowling) Arkansas rivers. He ran for reelection and lost. Bubba tried again four years later, but this time he was a changed man. Tyson Farms (the nation's largest chicken producer) and the timber giants were now his allies.

The Siege Is On

What this all means for EF! activists is that if Option 9 is implemented or when the new Hatfield "Rider from Hell" occurs—anything other than a continued or new injunction or mandated protection—it's back to the trenches. It means appealing every timber sale, mounting boycotts AND it may mean a return of westside blockades.

And the absolute worst part of it all is that if logging is successfully stopped in the remaining westside ancient forest ecosystems, then the devastation will surely increase in the eastside forests from the Cascades to Colorado. As if these areas aren't in just as bad or worse shape due to mismanagement by the same timber-toadying agencies.

The return to the owl forest blockades also means continuing the eastside efforts, which will spread people thin. So every possible tactic to enlarge the movement must be implemented. It's time to pick a piece and persevere. May the Forest be with you. It's now or never.

Wearing Buttons is not Enough!

BY RAMON

Mid-March of this year found me at the 12th annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference in Eugene, Oregon. One of the more heavily attended workshops was on the subject of Non-Violent Civil Disobedience and, in spite of myself, I went (I believe it's known as a "busman's holiday").

Seated beside me was a thoroughly respectable-looking couple in their middle years, the male of whom was sporting the wonderfully oxymoronic button, "Wearing Buttons Is Not Enough." Since almost half of the 2,000 attendees at the Conference wore giant mass-produced but-tons proclaiming "ZERO CUT" (referring to logging in National Forests), I assumed his home-made product was strictly ironic in intent.

As the discussion turned graphic, with various speakers recounting the horrors of police impoliteness and judicial overkill, I noticed that the couple became more rapt and attentive. Perhaps, I mused, these people are long-time (ergo frustrated) letter writers, contemplating the next, almost inevitable, step in their lives as activists. (The day I decided to step over the line, as it were, was the day I received a reply to one of *my* letters to then-President Bush, asking for specific recommendations concerning overcutting in the National Forests. The presidential letter was on super-thick bond paper that looked and felt as if an entire clearcut was required for its production. I immediately recycled it by sending it back to the White House with the impolite notation in the margin that his Administration was "clueless." By the way, the present Administration uses the same paper.)

The workshop continued in fulminating bombastic rhetoric toward the irresistible topic of "Direct Action." Whereas Civil Disobedience can be "direct" or "symbolic," Direct Action means just what it says. It need not involve breaking the law, although our Nation's most famous Direct Action, the Boston Tea Party, was both direct *and* disobedient. As always, the question arose concerning just when a citizen can justify breaking the law and when he or she is obliged to continue to work within the framework established by traditional social mores and legal restraints. And, as always, the question was and is basically unresolvable. Socrates took one position; John Locke another; and Ghandi and King carved out a third philosophical niche.

In the final analysis, after all the blah, blah, blah, it comes down to personal choice, the reality being that most of the citizenry will never approve of active disobedience, except in a historical context. All one may conclude is that rebels tend to rebel, conformists tend to conform, and rarely the twain shall meet.

As the meeting wound down, a member of the audience posed the question of what to do when even Non-Violent Civil Disobedience and/or Direct Action doesn't produce the desired result. People stirred uneasily as he used the dreaded "M" word (monkeywrenching), at which point somebody else stood up and closed *that* avenue of discussion by proclaiming that the workshop was over, and we started to file out of the auditorium. Seizing the moment, and not even bothering to introduce myself or ask the time of day, I grabbed my button-wearing neighbor by the shoulder and announced: "I *love* your button. I *must* have it, no matter the cost!"

Maybe it was the fire in my eyes. Maybe it was the drool on my lips. Maybe he was just a nice guy. In any event, he recognized Direct Action when he saw it.

"Here," he said. "It's yours."

Now if I only had his name and address, I'd send him a letter.

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND FIVE YEARS LATER...

continued from page 1

After that, everything went to hell.

During the next six months, I saw more dead and dying animals than most people see in an entire lifetime. I saw Knight Passage turned into a city of 10,000 Exxon employees in a wilderness that had never experienced more than twenty human beings at any one time over the last 10,000 years. I saw humpback whales surfacing and blowing in a rainbow sheen; I saw sleek and graceful sea otters grotesquely contorted as they drowned in what had only moments before been their nurturing home; I saw thousands of seabirds, unrecognizable in their slimy coatings of viscous crude, thrown into huge piles on the beach and burned. Hell is not a pretty place.

But now it's five years later and Exxon wants us to believe the oil is gone, the Sound is healed and there is no lasting effect from "the Valdez spill." Like hell there isn't!

On the fifth anniversary of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill, I can go to at least six different beaches in Prince William Sound where I can still put my hand into liquid, smelly oil lying in pockets just below the surface. In some places, asphalt coats the rocks and tide rack, and lies in clumps among the boulders and kelp fronds in the intertidal zone. Offshore, rocky outcrops that once were crowded with screaming kittiwakes, barking harbor seals and Stellar sea lions basking in the sun are now eerily silent and barren. Wave-battered shorelines that were once crusty with barnacles, periwinkles and limpets are now simply rocky, devoid of visible life forms other than algae and mosses.

To be honest, much of Prince William Sound appears as it once was. Sea otters float on their backs and dandle their young in the kelp beds, sea birds drift in graceful arcs through the startlingly blue sky and orcas sport amid the reflections of tidewater glaciers. "Though much has been lost, much remains, though much has been lost."

The fact is that the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill began on March 24, 1989 and is still, to this moment, oozing its way through the food chain and biological systems of this fragile environment. Even Exxon oil must obey the law of gravity, as it slides down the long incline from the rocky shores of Knight Island, Perry Island, Green Island and Naked Island, slowly working its way through gravel, sand, and organic sediments, being consumed by microbe, bacteria, crustacean, bivalve, halibut, cod, salmon, orca, humpback, kittiwake, glaucus gull, bald eagle, brown bear, deer, and even, at the top of the heap, by humans, old Homo sap himself. But ironically and tragically, not Exxon Homo sap.

The pink salmon run, on which many of the human inhabitants of Prince William Sound depend, has failed for the last two years, as has the normally dependable herring spawn. Harbor seal and Stellar sea lion numbers have diminished up to 90% in some areas. One third of the orcas have disappeared from their pods, breaking up the delicate social structure of these wolves of the sea. Entire colonies of seabirds have failed to reproduce.

Early days ago, as the Real People say, Prince William Sound was inhabited by the Chugachmiut, a maritime people who paddled their slender qayaq through the gentle waters, hunted whales solo with slate-tipped spears and lived in small villages between the waters and the dark spruce forests. They hadn't lived there very long by worldly standards, only about 8,000 years or so, but they had managed to evolve a lifestyle uniquely suited to this varied landscape, a lifestyle intimately tied to innua, the spirit that moves through all things.

Each animal, plant, pool, stream, glacier, mountain, and human contained a spirit, a spirit that was alive, watchful, aware, and talked to the humans. Every moment in the life of a Chugachmiut was suffused in meaning, every action took account of innua and took place in a continuum of relationships between the human and the spirit world. The strength and self-identity of the Chugachmiut was intricately bound with the strength of the spirit of the animal world in which he or she lived.

Today we talk of Native subsistence as if it were a quaint way of going to the grocery store, somewhat archaic, out of step with the modern world, but necessary to preserve for some unspecified, but vaguely romantic reason. We understand that the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill disrupted Native subsistence in Prince William Sound because many animals were killed and the people couldn't hunt and fish for a while because of the presence of the oil.

But we don't understand. In 1989, the remaining Chugachmiut of Prince William Sound saw their world utterly destroyed. When they saw seals and sea lions coated with oil, when they saw mussel beds and tidepools drowned in oil, when they saw oil covering salmon spawning streams and estuaries, seal rookeries and sea otter kelp beds, they saw their innua drowned, hopelessly fouled and smashed on the rocks of Prince William Sound. Not only could they no longer eat the once bountiful plant and animal resources they had depended on for ages, but they had images in their heads of the basis for their spiritual strength and identity fouled with the stench of Exxon oil. It was as if we had seen a combination of Safeway and the Sistine Chapel full to the rafters with Exxon crude.

And to further the process, in order to survive, Alaska Natives were forced to take jobs with Exxon on the clean-up, which further pulled them into the Western money economy, and dragged them further from their traditional subsistence roots. In the aftermath, the Chugachmiut are forced to deal with Exxon lawyers, propaganda flacks and government toadies in an attempt to gain a modicum of monetary recompense, in return for a lifestyle forever lost.

The only lesson of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill on this, its fifth anniversary, is don't ever let it happen again. Once the oil is out of its container, be it tanker, pipeline or car exhaust pipe, it can never be put back in. Oil was born deep in the bowels of the earth, capped by impervious layers of rock and soil, never intended to see the light of the post-Triassic world. We have opened the Pandora's Box, uncapped the Jinn's bottle, unleashed the Hounds of Hell.

On March 24, 1989, the scream of metal on rock was the cry of Prince William Sound, calling out to her human spirit brothers and sisters to save something of what is left of this once-pristine land, this Alaska, this Earth. The tankers still cleave the waters of Prince William Sound, limping into Port Valdez with cracked hulls, laboring motors, overworked crews. The terminal facility at Valdez still spews more benzene, ethylene, toluene and xylene into the air and water of Prince William Sound than any industrial site north of Los Angeles. And Exxon suits sit smugly in their penthouse offices in Dallas, secure in the knowledge that their billions of dollars of yearly profits are guaranteed by their hired lackeys and compliant politicians in that quaint northern colony called Alaska.

PROCLAMATIONS

NORTHWEST RENDEZVOUS

The Northwest Regional Rendezvous will be held during Memorial Day Weekend (May 26-30) on the eastern slope of the Oregon Cascades. Come camp with friends beneath old growth ponderosa pines next to a lake surrounded by spectacular views of snow-capped peaks. Nearby trails lead up to the Waldo and Three Sisters Wilderness Areas. In addition to the usual campfires and workshops, there will be interpretive hikes showcasing eastside forest ecology and salvage logging scams. On Memorial Day there will be a trip to the Warner Creek burn. Gathering sites are accessible to all species of all ages and abilities. Bring everything you will need for a long weekend of camping and hiking, including warm clothes and sturdy boots, food, water, beverages, musical instruments, drinking gourds, and assorted items for fun and games.

Directions (eastbound) from I-5:

Take Hiway 58 east; 10 miles east of Willamette Pass turn left/north on FS 61 (Crescent Road); turn left/north on FS 46 (Cascades Lakes Hiway); turn left/west on FS 4660 (West Davis Lake); drive approx. 9 miles and look right for signs near FS 4660-090.

On your way to the gathering you can stop for a quick soak in McCredie Hot springs and/or a dramatic vista of the Warner Creek burn. Approx. 8 miles east of Dink's Market in Oakridge (your last cheap beer stop), turn off Hiway 58 onto a large parking area and follow the trail to the pools. Approximately 1/2 mile further east on the hiway, turn right on FS 5875 (Shady Gap Rd. to Wicopee/Fields) and drive up 1.5 mile to a wide bend in the road for a dramatic view of the burn.

(Westbound) from Hiway 97 through Bend, OR:

Take Hiway 97 south; turn right/west on road 42; turn Left/West on FS 42; Turn Left/South on FS 46; turn right/west on FS 4660 (West Davis CG); drive past lava flow and look Left for signs near FS 4660-090.

For a scenic drive from downtown Bend, follow the signs to Mt. Bachelor Ski Resort and take FS 46 (Cascades Lakes Scenic Hiway) all the way to FS 4660. Enjoy awesome peeks of the Cascade peaks, including obsidian lava flows and alpine glaciers.

Please note: we will be asserting our constitutional right to free assembly on public lands so there will be no permit from the Freddies for this gathering.

Aho Gaawiin Gago

Two environmental gatherings will be held at Mole Lake Sokaogon Chippewa Community on Highway 55 south of Crandon, Wisconsin. **Environmental Genocide: *Aho Gaawiin Gago*** (No Go Away) is the theme combining the 5th annual **Protect Mother Earth Conference** (Wed,-Sat., June 15-18), which is sponsored by the Indigenous Environmental Network, and the 9th annual **Protect the Earth Gathering** (Sat.-Sun., June 18-19), sponsored by the Midwest Treaty Network.

Both events are hosted by the Nii Win Intertribal Council, which unites the Mole Lake Sokaogon Chippewa, Forest County Potawatomi, Menominee, and Stockbridge-Munsee. *Nii Winn* means "four" in the Ojibwe language—standing for the four nations opposed to Exxon's proposed Crandon/Mole zinc-copper sulfide mine.

This is a camp-out gathering. If you are unable to attend, please support the Nii Win fight for survial in other ways: June 15 is the International Day of Support for Wisconsin Indians; picket offices of Exxon or Rio Algom companies, or US embassies/consolates to protest environmental genocide through mining. Fax your accounts to Mole Lake at (715) 478-5275. Write letters against the mine to DNR Secretary George Meyer, Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707.

For more information write the Indigenous Environmental Network at Box 485, Bemidji, MN 56601, phone (715) 682-6293. The address of the Midwest Treaty Network is 731 State, Madison, WI 53703, phone (608) 246-2256. The Nii Win Intertribal Council's address is c/o Mole Lake, Rt. 1 Box 625, Crandon, WI 54520, phone (715) 478-2604.

Help the Native Forest Network and Save Cash!

Have we got a bargain for you. Do you spend a lot of time yacking on the phone to your radical buddies in every corner of the known universe? Then sign up for Affinity Fund long distance and you'll save yourself money and raise money for the Native Forest Network!

Here's how: Affinity Fund guarantees that you will save at least 10% over your current long-distance carrier (for residential users; businesses will save between 5 and 20%). So when you sign up, let them know that Native Forest Network is your sponsoring organization. Affinity Fund will give NFN 5% of the cost of each call.

All you have to do is call NFN at (406) 585-9211. We'll send you a promotional brochure. This will have all the details on signing up. All you'll have to do is fill out a small form and mail it to an Affinity Fund representative.

If you need details on NFN, see the tabloid in the Yule, '93 *EF! Journal*. We operate on a very small budget and are all volunteer. I hope you'll use this easy method to raise some money for international forest protection.

LIVE WILD OR DIE LIVES!

Live Wild Or Die, LWOD, Literature WithOut Direction, Leap Wildly Over Dogs, Lest We Objectify Dames, Little Willies On Dudes, Lend Wolves Our Dens, Leave Wildlife OutDoors, Lonesome Wildebeast On Drugs, Lazy White Old Deadbeats, Loopy Weirdos On Dramamine, Liam Winds Up Dolls, Leff Willer's Other Date, Live Mild Or Fry, Live Mild And Die, whatever you want to call it, IT'S DONE! (well, almost). This time for real! After two short years and three states, the long awaited fourth edition is nearly ready. Most of the pages are layed out (by hand, of course) and a printer has been found. All that remains is the printing and mailing which cost $$$. This time we really mean it. If you would like a copy and would like to donate for printing costs, mail lots of money to L.W.O.D. at POB 15032, Berkeley, CA 94701. Additionally, applicants are being sought for the extreme pleasure of producing the next issue.

8th Annual National Forest Reform Rally

The Western Ancient Forest Campaign, Oregon Natural Resources Council and the Forest Reform Network are hosting the 8th Annual National Forest Reform Rally (formerly called the Forest Reform Pow Wow) at Eastern Oregon State College in LaGrande, Oregon June 16-19. LaGrande is nestled in the Blue Mountains and pine forests of eastern Oregon and is not far from Hells Canyon, the deepest river-carved canyon on Earth.

Planned events include field trips, strategizing, keynote speakers, and overflights of the forests by Lighthawk. Workshops are scheduled on the Eastside Ecosystem Management Project, watershed restoration, GIS mapping, coalition building and combatting the "wise use" movement.

Meals, lodging and tent camping will be available. For more information write Samantha Mace at the Western Ancient Forest Campaign, POB 1541, Walla Walla, WA 99362, or call (509) 527-0471.

Free Drums for Activists

CASCADIA Friends of Tibet is giving away drums to activists! The drums, Tibetan Damerus, are known in English as duel-tether drums. The drums are being offered DÅNÅ (without charge), but they would accept donations. In your request they ask that you include a blurp on your physical aptitude; are you adept at "eco-aerobics?" Write them at POB 2, Capitolia, CA 95010.

Turtle Island Bioregional Gathering VI

The Turtle Island Bioregional Gathering VI will take place August 14-21 on the Ohio River in Otter Creek Park, 30 miles southwest of Louisville, Kentucky.

In the wake of NAFTA, cultural diversity and bioregional values are threatened by the growing paradigm of corporate internationalism. Those of us dedicated to ecological integrity, grassroots empowerment and spiritual sovereignty will bring ourselves together for seven days of dialogue, workshops, strategic planning, and creative cultural expression. As folks from the growing number of bioregions assemble at Camp Piomingo, a traditional gathering place of eastern native tribes, we hope to define a greater sense of purpose and celebrate diversity.

Sponsors are needed as well as donations of firewood, office equipment, air fares, printed bioregion materials, arts and craft supplies, and musical instruments. Tax deductible contributions may be sent to The Colorado Plateau Ecology Alliance, POB 428, Flagstaff, AZ 86002, (602) 774-0130. For more information write Shepard Hendrickson at 341 N. Hamilton, Indianapolis, IN 46201, or call (317) 636-3977.

Talking Leaves

Talking Leaves is a journal of deep ecology, inspired personal activism rooted in earthen spirituality. ***Talking Leaves*** speaks for the natural world and for the rekindling of our own wild spirit.

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AND EXALTATIONS

Peg Millett Records Again!

Dear Friends,

Many of you wrote me while I was in jail and ordered my first cassette tape, Gentle Warrior. I want to thank you again—your letters and support helped me get through those two years.

I've been out of the slammer for seven months and I was finished with parole the end of January. After initial euphoria, I'm now into a decompression zone. I need to re-enter the "real" world, figure out how to make a living doing something I love, which is singing and remaining an activist, while minimizing the risk of getting thrown back in jail, although there's always that risk, it seems.

The best way I can do this is by performing as a musician and an activist, and by selling my recordings at performances and through wholesale outlets that request them (like Ned Ludd Books and the EF! Journal). To this end, I'm recording a new album, which I want to manufacture in CD and cassette formats. It should be ready by summer, 1994.

I need to raise approximately $5000 to do this and I'm writing to ask for your help. You can help in a number of ways:

1. Order copies of my current cassette, Gentle Warrior, $12 each postpaid.

2. Pre-order copies of the new cassette ($12) or CD ($17) postpaid.

3. Make a donation of $50 or more and we'll send you a copy of the CD and the cassette, and list you as a donor on the recording, unless you request anonymity.

4. Send me names/addresses of a few of your friends that you think might enjoy my music. I'll put them on my mailing list and tell them when the recording is done.

5. Send me names/addresses of places (or organizations) that might book me in your area.

6. Send good vibes and love and prayers.

Thanks.

With love and light, Peg Millett

Write to Hidden Waters Music, POB 2544, Prescott, AZ 86302

TERRA PRIMA! ROADSHOW W/PEG and MIRA

Peg Millett, one of the Earth First! "Arizona 5," will headline a roadshow with contemporary folk and a cappella music. Peg was recently released from jail after serving two years of a three-year sentence for aiding and abetting in the destruction of ski lift pylons in northern Arizona, a deed she undertook to protest the desecration of native American sacred lands.

Mira Goldberg from British Columbia will present a slide show on the Walbran/Carmanah Valleys on Vancouver Island and a video about native sovereignty. Mira will also bellydance. She was arrested in the Walbran in 1991 during a blockade and is one of 41 people being sued by the in a Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation (SLAPP).

Now is the time to schedule a date if you are interested in hosting a performance in the Washington/Oregon area. We will be traveling north from Eugene, OR on June 1 and plan to be in BC by June 15.

The roadshow is being organized by Terra Prima!, the Victoria, BC(Canada) Earth First! group. For more information, contact Terra Prima! at (604) 383-1560; #618-620 View St., Victoria, BC Canada V8W 1J6

Prior to the show contact Mira Goldberg (roadshow coordinator) at (604) 380-0102 (phone/fax); Email: uc389@freenet.victoria.bc.ca

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

*Wednesday, Jun 1	Eugene, OR
*Friday, Jun 3	Portland, OR
Sunday, Jun 5	Olympia, WA
*Monday, Jun 6	Seattle, WA
Wednesday, Jun 8	Tofino, BC
Saturday, Jun 11	Saltspring, BC
*Sunday, Jun 12	Vancouver, BC
*Tuesday, Jun 14	Victoria, BC

*organizer/host group confirmed, as of April 15.

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Cove/Mallard River Walk

As the Central Idaho Wilderness Campaign enters its third year, the Cove/Mallard Coalition is sponsoring a "River Walk" in early June. Starting in Grangeville, Idaho, at the USFS Supervisor's Office, the walk will proceed along Highway 14 beside the scenic South Fork of the Clearwater River. The dates for the Walk are June 4-11, 1994.

Before heading upstream along the Red River on Forest Service Road 222, we will pause to host a picnic lunch near the community of Elk City.

The 75-mile Walk will conclude two days later at Dixie Summit. Along the walk, we will be able to observe the mismanagement by the Red River Ranger District of the Nez Perce National Forest. We are encouraging walkers to remain for a few more days for guided tours of the recently cut Grouse Timber Sale and the recently completed (and misnamed) Noble Road. These two incursions are the beginning of a multi-year campaign by the Forest Service to carve 145 miles of roads into the heart of Idaho's "Big Wild." These roads, in turn, will allow access to the approximately 200 proposed clearcuts that comprise the Cove/Mallard Timber Sales.

Food, water, and logistical support will be provided by Seeds Of Peace. Camping gear will be shuttled daily, and a "sag-wagon" will be available to pick up stragglers.

Vehicles will be parked near the end of the Walk, with a shuttle at noon on Friday, June 3rd, to Grangeville. Plan to be without access to your car until the Walk is over.

We welcome you to join us in this peaceful walk. Call us at (208) 882-9755 or write the Cove/Mallard Coalition, Box 8968, Moscow, ID 83843.

Cove/Mallard Last Wilderness Defense Fund

Colorful, handmade postcards featuring wild images and wooly quotes from the likes of Ed Abbey are for sale. These cards, donated by Pullman, WA artist and activist Lynn Carey Bornholdt, are selling for $6, including tax and postage, for a mixed package of 10. All proceeds go to activists working in Cove/Mallard and surrounding areas. Send orders to POB 9970, Moscow, ID 83843 and make checks payable to:

the Last Wilderness Defense Fund

HEARTWOOD FOREST COUNCIL

Heartwood's 4th Annual Forest Council will be held May 27-30, on the upper Buffalo National Wild and Scenic River, west of Jasper, Arkansas.

ABOUT "HEARTWOOD"

Heartwood is the only region-wide group working to protect the HEARTland hardWOOD forests from waste and destruction. Did you know that more hardwood lumber goes into shipping pallets than all other uses combined? Or that most pallets are used just once before being landfilled, incinerated, or otherwise discarded? By reducing this kind of waste, improving efficiency, and increasing recycling, we can leave standing HALF the trees that are now cut.

THE CENTRAL HARDWOOD FOREST

The Central Hardwood Forest extends from the Atlantic coast of New England to the river bottoms that meander across the midwestern plains. From North Carolina to Texas, native hardwood forests are being clearcut, burned, poisoned and replaced with pine plantations. The southern and eastern regions of the USFS (Regions 8 and 9) contain 72% of US commercial timberland and 90% of the hardwoods in the US.

The Forest Council will include workshops, field demonstrations and interpretive hikes, plus eco-tours, live entertainment and lots of great people. All interested activists and newcomers are invited to attend. The Forest Council will be held at Camp Orr, off highway 74 on the Buffalo River, west of Jasper.

For more information, or a registration form, write Herb Culver, HC 62, Box 665, Deer, AR 72628, or call Ozarks Heartwood at (816) 882-7813.

Heartwood can be contacted at POB 402, Paoli, Indiana 47454, (812) 723-2430

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OVERGRAZING SLIDESHOW

"The Eating of the West" graphically displays the devastation of western public lands at the hands (and hooves) of the livestock industry. The show consists of over 100 slides from national forests, nation wildlife refuges and BLM land that portray the shocking magnitude of the problems caused by grazing. The slide show comes with a written script and is rented at cost, $10. Orders should include the name and phone number of a contact person, the date the show is needed (as well as alternatives), and a street address for UPS delivery. Order from the

Ranching Task Force, POB 41652, Tucson, AZ 85717

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REVIEWS FOR YOUR PERUSAL

A River Cries

Video by Gene Bernofsky

REVIEWED BY WILDEHARTE

Video Director Gene Bernofsky has just come out with *A River Cries*, his fifth exposé on mining in Montana. *A River Cries* focuses on two Montana gold mining projects: Zortman-Landusky, currently being operated by the Canadian firm Pegasus, and another, designated "7-Up Pete," currently being planned by Phelps-Dodge.

The film's most frightening images are aerial shots of Zortman-Landusky, which is adjacent to the Fort Belknop Indian Reservation. One look at the lunar landscape of Zortman-Landusky, in contrast to the forests directly alongside, should convince anyone that human beings will never be able to repair some forms of environmental damage.

The poisoning of water on nearby lands by the cyanide heap-leaching process used at Zortman-Landusky is described in the video by Joe Azure. Azure is an Assinboine active with Red Thunder, a Native American group working to close the mines.

Bernofsky presents Zortman-Landusky as a warning. The same cyanide heap-leaching process is proposed at the 7-Up Pete Mine near Lincoln, MT, not far from the headwaters of the Blackfoot River. This proposal calls for cyanide heap-leaching pads to be built within 400 yards of the river!

The Blackfoot is famous because of Robert Redford's film version of Norman McClean's fly fishing memoir A River Runs Through It. (The working title of Bernofsky's video was *A Sewer Runs Through It.*) Bernofsky hopes that the recognition from the film may help save the river from the mine proposed by Phelps-Dodge.

Even without the mine, the river needs help. It has been labeled one of America's most threatened rivers. The Milltown Dam, where the Blackfoot flows into the Clark Fork, is one of America's largest Superfund sites. An unimaginable horror of heavy metals is being flushed down from Annaconda Copper's operations in Butte. Old mines seep acid waste into the Blackfoot's headwaters. A recent flood that washed mine tailings into the river killed fish along a ten mile stretch. The video images of rust-colored acid mine waste from the abandoned Mike Horse Mine flowing into a tributary of the Blackfoot is disturbing.

Recent efforts to mitigate damage from old mines around the river's headwaters will mean little if the Phelps-Dodge mine goes through. The proposed mine will be two-thirds the size of the massive Berkley Pit in Butte which is currently filling up with a witches brew of heavy metals destined to poison that city's ground water. The same thing will happen near Lincoln.

The Montana Constitution has strong language on the reclamation and restoration of mined land, but it has never been enforced. Montana has never been known to deny any major corporation a mining permit. Bernofsky believes that the Phelps-Dodge proposal can be stopped by citizens simply demanding strict enforcement of the State's constitution. There is no way to clean up the poisons created or restore the land devastated by cyanide heap-leaching.

Gene Bernofsky's ultimate goal is a moratorium on all new mining in Montana until all the land destroyed by over a hundred years of mining is reclaimed.

Bernofsky has established a tax-exempt organization, World Wide Film Expedition, for the production and dissemination of videos on mining in Montana. He hopes to expand his focus to produce new videos on mining in Canada, Idaho and Wyoming as well. His previous video, Undermining the Yellowstone has been instrumental in the fight to stop a massive goldmine proposed for the border of Yellowstone National Park by Noranda Mining.

*A River Cries is avai*lable for $10, shipping included, from World Wide Film Expedition, 243 Mount, Missoula, MT 59801. Each purchase will also finance copies of the video to go to public access television stations and environmental groups throughout the country. Bernofsky encourages any use of his video, including public and private showings, copying, excerpting and script plagiarizing. He hopes that buyers will send copies to politicians, reporters, public access television stations, and any organization or person that might have an influence on public policy.

CLEARCUT

THE TRAGEDY OF INDUSTRIAL FORESTRY

Edited by Bill Devall

REVIEWED BY DELPHINAPTERUS, EF! MANITOBA

The forests of North America are suffering from an anthropogenic disease: clearcutting. *Clearcut—The Tragedy of Industrial Forestry* is one hundred-eighty pages of pictures of the most disgusting clearcuts on Earth. Everyone who has seen this book is repulsed by the photographs. Washed out roads—resembling a bleeding Earth—cut into a mountain in Clayoquot Sound. Swaths of once thriving forests cut from horizon to horizon in Oregon, British Columbia and Washington. Former boreal forest clearcuts that look like a bomb testing range from the skidder marks. Beautiful deciduous forests in the fall contrasted with a waste land just a short distance away. There is even a photo of Nopiming Provincial Park in Manitoba, with a gaping wound brought to you by Abitibi-Price Inc. World War III has come, but this time it's against the Earth.

Clearcut is not just a picture book. It contains essays on everything from forestry critiques to the deep, long-range ecology movement. Most important of all, *Clearcut* presents new ways of thinking about the natural world and explores alternatives such as ecoforestry. Not only does *Clearcut* tear a strip off industrial forestry, but it also offers a way out, a hope for the future. New forestry techniques that respect and sustain a forest *can* produce enough jobs and "resources" for our vital needs if you remove the profits for large multi-national corporations.

Clearcut also exposes the economic myths of clearcutting. Our governments are subsidizing the destruction through land give-aways, low stumpage fees, and road building. We are paying for the destruction of our forests through our tax dollars. Industry funded "Share" groups try to tell workers that environmentalists have caused massive job loss within the forest industry, but it is mechanization which is responsible for the job losses. Union and industry dependent towns are being exploited by multi-national corporations out for short-term profit.

Clearcut is *the* coffee table book of the radical environmental movement. We can finally show people what we have been talking about for years. *Clearcut* is all the proof needed to show our society the destruction of the natural world. There is now no denying that industrial forestry practices are truly unsustainable—environmentally, economically and socially. Do we have the vision and the will to prevent an ecological catastrophe? I truly hope this book will inspire many people to take action in defense of the forests.

Fifteen thousand copies of this books have been printed, but only 3,000 will be sold. The rest are being given away. The idea is to get this book into the hands of as many politicians and decision makers as possible. You can help by contacting the Rainforest Action Network to get copies to give away in your area. There address is 450 Sansome St., 7th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94133 or call (415) 398-4404.

A Night to Howl – The Movie

REVIEWED BY DENNIS FRITZINGER

A Night to Howl, the video by Andy Caffrey, has its flaws, certainly, yet I believe it is an accurate statement of the Warrior Poets Society and Earth First! (at the moment).

It is a little uneven at first, but it soon settles into a rhythm that gets progressively stronger with each performance. Chicago Slam, LA beatnik, and other styles of poetry are mixed in with rap, Celtic harp, and good-natured banjo tunes. Each performer got off at least one good piece, usually more, and the variety kept it from getting boring.

Video is a new medium for poets. So it's no surprise that a poetry video would have a few rough edges. It's surprising that it's as good as it is.

What is it about? On a primal level it's about language. Deep down in the basement, however, where language lives, there are things—so it's also about things: living things.

Rough, tough punk rock bears coexist here with babies about to be born, and unsatisfied sperm. Wolves moving into former territories, fat bodies looking to discorporate, space shuttles and ghost towns and sweat lodges all make an appearance.

Although my own performance was never better than competent, several performers turned out to be masterful showmen (and women). In fact, you may be surprised when you see this. It has a down home flavor to it, as if most of the performers knew each other (which, in fact, they do).

This tape is like a family album, and will no doubt keep its freshness and originality when video poetry becomes as polished as, say, MTV.

If you want to see for yourself (and I hope you do) a bunch of retro poets whooping it up on stage, buy this tape for $25 from the Warrior Poets Society.

Performers: Rodney Webb, Dwight Worker, Leeona Klippstein, Dennis Fritzinger, Mark Williams, Janet Allen, Kids for Konservation, Hal Bogotch, Peter Bravler, Brad Banyan, Adam Bregman, Ellyn Maybe, Bobbie Jo, Andy Caffrey, Anne Petermann, Peg Millett.

The highlights: "Mission Impossible" (Janet Allen); "Calling All Humans" (John Bartles, performed by Anne Petermann); "A Plain Green Rapper" (Bob Richards, performed by Kids for Konservation); "Payin' Them Back" (Dwight Worker).

You can order A Night to Howl from the Warrior Poets Society, Bancroft and Telegraph, ASUC Box 361, Berkeley, CA 94720-1111. Make checks out to Andy Caffrey for over two hours of Earth First! Warrior Poetry and song.

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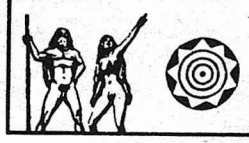

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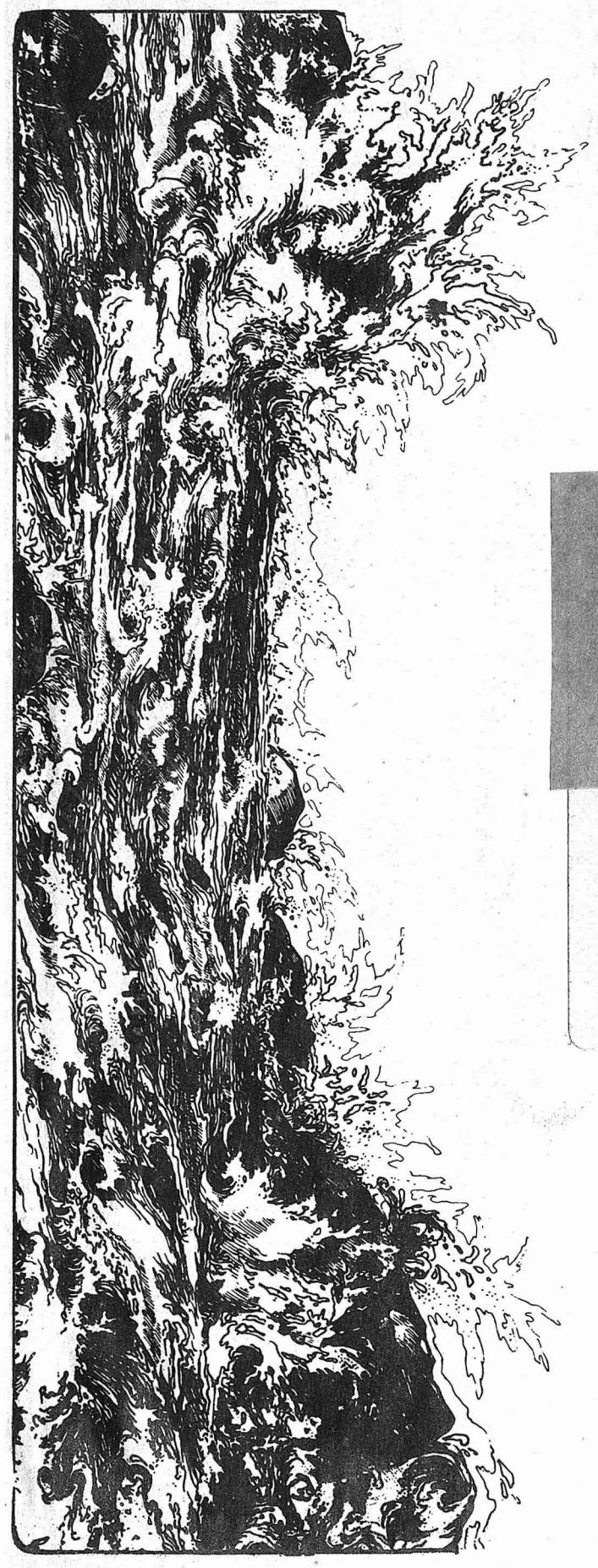

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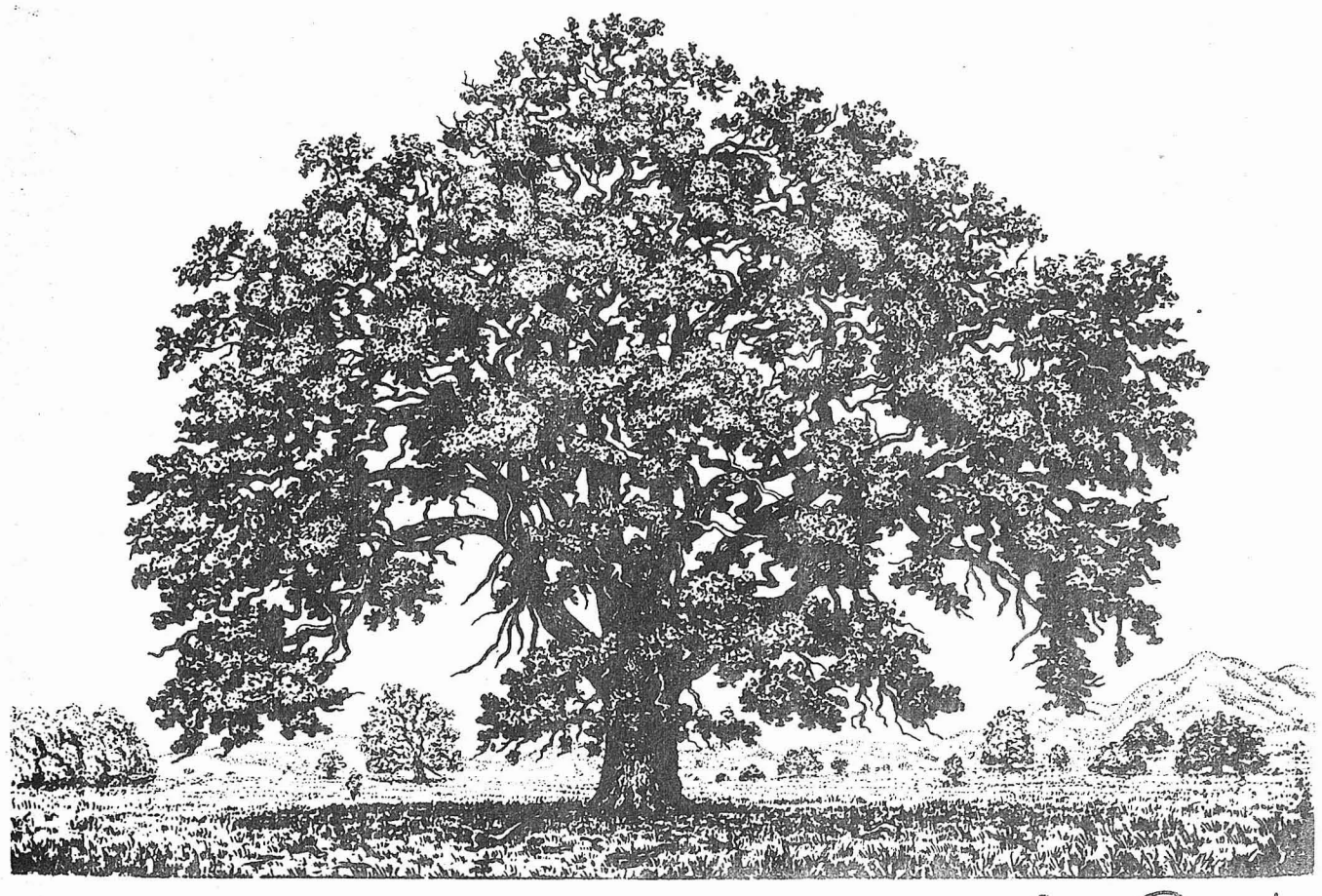

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